

## Draft Amendments

**DELETIONS****ADDITIONS****CITATION    HEADING**

CITATION    Narrative Text. Citation

**NEW**            **New text, policy, or action.**CITATION    *Policy Element Abbreviation-Section Number.Policy Number: Policy Name*CITATION    *Action Element Abbreviation-Section Number.Action Letter: Action Name*Completed Action Text (at end of action and before citation): **Completed – See Implementation Table.**

1300            Overview 1300

1300.1            The Infrastructure Element provides policies and actions on the District's water, sanitary sewer, stormwater, solid waste management, energy, **information and communications technology, and enhanced coordination among these sectors.** ~~telecommunication systems.~~ Investments in these systems are essential to **Washington, DC's** ~~our city's~~ future, ~~both to~~ **meeting** the demands of existing users, ~~and to~~ **accommodating** future change and development, **and enhancing its resiliency and sustainability.** **These policies are complemented by policies in the Land Use, Urban Design, Environmental Protection, Transportation, Health and Community Facilities, and other elements, recognizing the interplay between infrastructure and these related topics.** 1300.1

1300.2            ~~Like many older historic cities, the District suffers from aging infrastructure. Some portions of the water and sewer systems were built more than a century ago. The central challenge faced by the District is not one of capacity but one of meeting maintenance and replacement needs. In fact, the number of households in the city today is not substantially different than it was in 1950, though there are 230,000 fewer residents. Consequently, infrastructure is generally in place to support additional development, with some exceptions at specific locations where development did not previously exist. The conveyance systems and facilities, however, are suffering from structural deterioration and are in need of significant rehabilitation, modernization, and expansion as aging components approach the end of their useful lives.~~ **Since the 2006 update to the Comprehensive Plan,**

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billions of dollars have been invested in the District's energy, water, digital, and solid waste systems, which are intrinsic to the daily life and function of the city and its residents and visitors. Collectively, these investments have made the District a better place to live, work and visit through the replacement of aging infrastructure, modernization of existing infrastructure, as well as environmental mitigations that are improving Washington, DC's natural environment. However, most of these investments were not directed toward expanding capacity, since existing systems had spare capacity. With the level of forecasted growth in population and jobs, Washington, DC will need to think innovatively about how build on the substantial infrastructure investments made in the last decade. To meet future demands effectively, the District should take a cross-system approach to infrastructure, identify ways to use existing infrastructure more innovatively, apply new and emerging technologies to make infrastructure more efficient, and expand capacity where needed. This approach should focus on improving quality of life and addressing climate change. 1300.2

NEW

To meet future demands effectively, the District should take a cross-system approach to infrastructure, identify ways to use existing infrastructure more innovatively, apply new and emerging technologies to make infrastructure more efficient, and expand capacity where needed. This approach should focus on improving quality of life and addressing climate change. The District will also need to plan for a future where infrastructure is forced to contend with increased pressures from climate change. Infrastructure should be designed in a resilient way to withstand chronic stressors and system shocks.

NEW

Infrastructure is critical to the continued success and growth of Washington, DC; infrastructure capacity and effectiveness directly impact quality of life. Infrastructure systems provide vital services to residents, workers and visitors; shape and enhance the public realm; underlie and contribute to health, wellness, safety, security, and quality of life; are fundamental to ensuring economic growth; and form a backbone that allows the District to function as a home to hundreds of thousands of persons and as the nation's capital. In these ways infrastructure fundamentally contributes to the District's ability to fulfill the Comprehensive Plan's vision of an equitable, inclusive and resilient city.

NEW

The District's current infrastructure includes:

- Over 1,350 miles of drinking water pipelines and 1,800 miles of sewers;
- Over 2,200 miles of electrical cable;
- Over 2,300 miles of natural gas pipelines;

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- Approximately 700 miles of fiber optic cable owned by the District;
- Over 400 outdoor Wi-Fi Access Points;
- 13 communications towers strategically located across the city;  
and
- Over 70,200 street lights.

1300.3 The planning, management, and oversight of the District's **energy, water and sewer, solid waste, and information and communications technology** ~~utilities systems~~ ~~is~~ ~~are distributed among~~ ~~shared by~~ several ~~entities~~ ~~agencies~~, including ~~the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (WASA)~~ **DC Water (formerly DC Water and Sewer Authority)**, the US Army Corps of Engineers **(USACE)**, **the Potomac Electric Power Company (PEPCO)**, Washington Gas, ~~and~~ the District's Department of Public Works **(DPW)**, **the District's Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO)**, **commercial telecommunications providers, and others**. In addition, the General Services Administration (GSA) contracts with Washington Gas and PEPCO to supply federal agencies with **natural gas and electricity, respectively and many federal agencies, as well as some hospitals, educational institutions and other non-profit organizations avail themselves of DC-Net.** ~~electricity and natural gas.~~ This Element incorporates planning and policy guidance from the short-term and long-term plans of these service providers. 1300.3

1300.4 The critical infrastructure issues facing ~~the District~~ **Washington, DC** ~~of Columbia~~ are addressed in this Element. ~~These issues~~ ~~They~~ include:

- **Achieving and maintaining a State of Good Repair across all infrastructure systems**
- Improving water quality and public health by addressing the city's combined sewer, **sanitary sewer** and wastewater systems
- **Responding to rapid changes in technology and ensuring new digital technologies and services are equitably distributed and accessible**
- Modernizing the aging water, **gas and electric** distribution systems
- ~~Ensuring the District has a world-class telecommunications system with access for residents and businesses across the city~~
- **Addressing infrastructure sufficiency for new development**
- **Enhancing the District's utility systems to increase resilience.**1300.4

**NEW** **Since 2006, when the Comprehensive Plan was last revised, Washington, DC**

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**has experienced rapid population and job growth, which has made the District one of the fastest growing large cities in the country. In 2018 the District's population grew to 700,000, a figure not seen since the 1970s. Washington, DC grew by 121,000 people or 20.8 percent since the 2006 update of the Comprehensive Plan. This trend puts the District on track to bypass its previous peak population of 802,000 within the next decade. Washington, DC experienced the largest share of this growth (79,000 residents) in the six years since the 2010 decennial census. Investing in infrastructure is a critical part of sustaining this growth.**

1301 Infrastructure Goal 1301

1301.1 The overarching goal for infrastructure is:

*Provide high-quality, **robust**, efficiently managed and maintained, and properly funded infrastructure to **meet the needs of residents, workers and visitors in an accessible and equitable way**, ~~serve existing development~~, as well as **support** future change and growth. 1301.1*

1302 IN-1 Drinking Water 1302

1302.1 The water system serving the District ~~of Columbia~~ consists of two primary components: the water supply and treatment system, and the water distribution system. 1302.1

**NEW** **The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (DC Water) was created by District law in 1996, with the approval of the United States Congress, as an independent authority of the District Government with a separate legal existence. As of 2016, DC Water distributes safe, treated drinking water to all residents, workers and visitors in the District.**

**NEW** **Since 2006 there has been an evolution in the way water management is approached: while previously siloed as separate systems, potable water, wastewater, and stormwater are now managed together. This approach focuses on optimal outcomes, with all components considered together during the planning process. The whole water cycle, from capture, treatment and reuse are now integrated at both the local and citywide scale. Thus, some of the policies and actions below may apply to drinking water infrastructure, as well as to wastewater and stormwater systems.**

1302.2 Water Supply and Treatment

The supply and treatment system includes raw water sources, pipelines carrying this water to treatment plants, and the water treatment plants themselves. The Washington Aqueduct Division of the US Army Corps of Engineers (**USACE**) operates and maintains these facilities and supplies treated water to several

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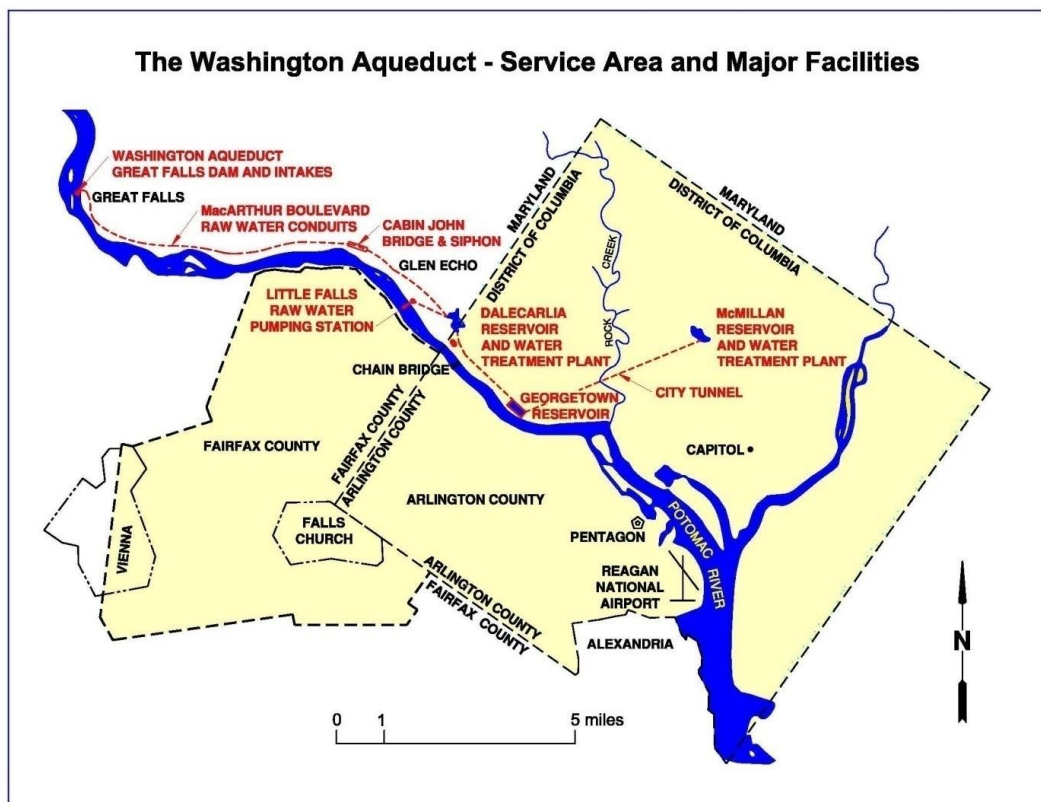
distributors. These distributors (which include ~~WASA-DC Water~~) deliver water to over one million users in ~~the District~~ **Washington, DC** and Northern Virginia. 1302.2

1302.3 The Washington Aqueduct **water system** was commissioned by Congress and built by the USACE in the 1850's to provide the nation's capital with a plentiful water source. It has been in continuous operation ever since **and is the only public water supply in the Unites States where the federal government has a direct role in providing drinking water.** 1302.3

1302.4 The **Washington** Aqueduct System is ~~composed~~ **comprised** of the Great Falls and Little Falls intakes on the Potomac River, the Dalecarlia and McMillan Reservoirs, the Georgetown Conduit and Reservoir, the Washington City Tunnel, and the East Shaft Pump Station. **The sand filtration site located at the McMillan Reservoir and Water Treatment Plan was decommissioned in 1986 and is no longer part of the water treatment system.** Figure 13.1 shows the Washington Aqueduct system. 1302.4

**NEW**

Figure 13.1: Washington Aqueduct System 1302.5



*(Source: Washington Aqueduct, 2018)*

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- 1302.6 **The Potomac River is the source of all water treated by Washington Aqueduct, a federally owned and operated water supply agency, and delivered to its customers. To ensure that this supply meets the needs of Washington Aqueduct's customers, the Low Flow Allocation Agreement (LFAA) was created in 1978. The agreement** ~~Water from the Washington Aqueduct is currently allocated based on a Low Flow Allocation Agreement (LFAA) that~~ was signed by the United States, Maryland, Virginia, **and the District of Columbia. In addition to Washington Aqueduct,** the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission and the Fairfax County Water Authority **are the affected water providers. The agreement, through a formula for allocating Potomac River water, in 1978. The Agreement recognized the need to maintain a minimum flow in the Potomac River ensures that the downstream user, the Washington Aqueduct, has an appropriate allocation of the available water. With the construction of the Jennings Randolph Reservoir and Little Seneca Reservoir, the additional water available to be released has been sufficient to operate through major droughts in 1999 and 2002. While the provisions of the LFAA have not been triggered, every year the LFAA parties conduct a drought exercise to review the procedures that would be used in a more significant drought emergency. in order to sustain aquatic resources. It established a set of stages for river flow that would prompt action by the signatories to monitor and eventually restrict water withdrawal. It also established a formula for allocating Potomac River water during times of shortage. To date, the LFAA's low flow stages have never been triggered.** 1302.6
- 1302.7 In 1982, the major water utilities and the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin (ICPRB) signed the Water Supply Coordination Agreement (WSCA). It required the major water suppliers to coordinate their operations during drought emergencies. The Agreement also required that a 20-year study of supply and demand be prepared and updated every five years. It also included cost-sharing agreements for new facilities and subsequently included the Jennings Randolph and Little Seneca Reservoirs that serve as back-up water supply during droughts. 1302.7
- 1302.8 The **most recent ICPRB study, Year 2005 "2015 Washington Metropolitan Area Water Supply Study," estimated annual demand in the Washington Metro area to be 529 million gallons per day (mgd), a 12 percent increase from the 486 mgd previously estimated for 2015. The study also forecasted a growth in annual demand to 545 mgd in 2040. Although the study found that the system can meet the projected demand under normal conditions, severe drought conditions could trigger emergency water use, which would stress system reservoir volumes.** ~~-assessment concluded that even under a high regional growth scenario, the water supply system developed 25 years ago is adequate to meet 2025 demand under a repeat of the worst meteorological and stream flow conditions in the historical record. The Assessment found that the~~



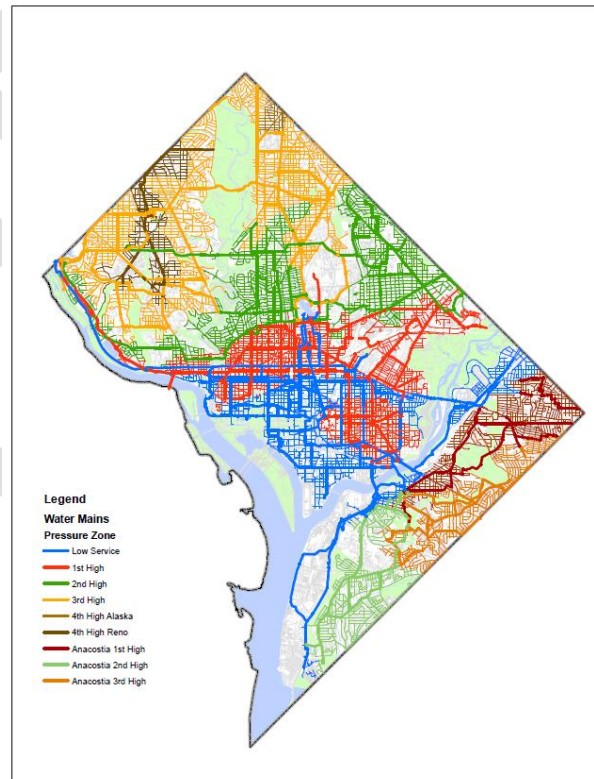
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~~system would also be able to meet estimated future water supply demand in 2045 given a repeat of the same drought conditions.~~ 1302.8

- 1302.9 The historic maximum production of drinking water by ~~from~~ the Washington Aqueduct was 284 million ~~gallons per day (mgd)~~, which occurred in 1974. Since 1974, water demand ~~has~~ decreased due to declining population and water conservation measures; **however, while the District's population has been increasing since 2000, water consumption has remained stable due to conservation measures.** Water demand is now relatively stable. In ~~2005~~ **2017**, the average daily production from the Washington Aqueduct ~~Division~~ was approximately ~~185~~ **131** mgd with a maximum day use of approximately ~~245~~ **176** mgd. 1302.9
- 1302.10 The ~~Corps of Engineers~~ **Washington Aqueduct** treats water from the ~~Aqueduct Potomac River~~ at the Dalecarlia and McMillan water treatment plants (WTPs). Both of these plants were designed for much larger populations and higher water use projections than have been realized. As a result, their treatment capacity exceeds present-day demands and peak requirements of the customers. The Dalecarlia facility has a design capacity of 164 ~~million gallons per day (mgd)~~ and maximum capacity of 264 mgd. The McMillan facility has a design capacity of 120 mgd and a maximum capacity of 180 mgd. ~~WASA DC Water~~'s projected average water demand based on population in 2020 is 156.5 mgd. Both Dalecarlia and McMillan serve **not only** the needs of the District, **but they also provide water to Arlington County and a portion of the Fairfax Water service area in Virginia. The total demand of all three water providers is easily met within the current operational capability of the Washington Aqueduct water treatment system.** ~~(Dalecarlia also serves Arlington and Falls Church), so projected demand is well within the respective design capacities.~~ 1302.10
- 1302.11 ~~Projections for future water demand for the regional WASA Service Area are shown in Table 13.1. These projections are maintained by WASA and assume levels of growth consistent with this Comprehensive Plan and the plans of adjacent cities and counties in the service area.~~ 1302.11
- 1302.12 ~~Table 13.1: Current and Projected Water Demands (mgd), WASA DC Water Service Area~~ 1302.12
- 1302.13 ~~Water Storage, Distribution, and Pumping~~  
**Potable Wwater** storage and pumping responsibilities are shared by ~~WASA DC Water~~ and the Washington Aqueduct. ~~WASA DC Water~~ operates four treated water pumping stations (Anacostia, Bryant Street, Fort Reno, and 16th and Alaska), and eight reservoirs and elevated tanks. The Washington Aqueduct operates the Dalecarlia Pump Station and three reservoirs: Foxhall, Van Ness, and Fort Reno. 1302.13

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- 1302.14 DC Water ~~and Sewer Authority~~ is the primary agency responsible for the District's treated water distribution system. This system consists of ~~pipelines and hydrants~~ **pipes, elevated water storage tanks, valves and public hydrants** that deliver water to customers and meet other municipal needs such as fire **suppression** ~~fighting~~. The system is divided into ~~seven~~ **nine** water distribution zones (also known as service areas) based on differences in ground elevation. These areas are shown on Figure 13.2. 1302.14
- 1302.15 **DC Water pumps an average of 95 mgd through the distribution system.** ~~The distribution~~ **This** system includes almost 1,~~3050~~ miles of ~~pipes~~ **water mains** ranging in size from four to 78 inches in diameter. It also includes over 36,000 valves and approximately 9,000 hydrants. ~~More than 50 percent of the water mains in the system are over 100 years old.~~ **The median age of the water mains is 79 years old, and some have been in service for more than a century.** ~~These older cast iron water mains are vulnerable to breaks and also are subject to a problem called tuberculation, in which small mounds of corroded materials accumulate in the pipes.~~ ~~WASA~~ **DC Water** continually assesses the reliability and integrity of the water and sewer system pipes. To the extent that maintenance, corrosion, and break reports reveal problems, specific upgrades are factored into ~~the~~ **DC Water's 10-year** Capital Improvement Program 1302.15

**NEW**Figure 13.2: ~~WASA~~ **DC** Water Service Distribution Zones 1302.16**(Source: DC Water 2018)**



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- 1303 IN-1.1 Ensuring an Adequate Future Water Supply 1303
- 1303.1 ~~As noted above, the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River has concluded that water flow in the River and impoundments at upstream reservoirs will be more than adequate to meet water needs through at least 2045. Due to conservation efforts and other measures, 20-year forecasts are lower today than they were in 1990, 1995, or 2000.~~ 1303.1
- 1303.2 ~~Despite the projections, there are always uncertainties associated with the future. While conservation efforts and other measures have been used as assumptions for the current 20-year drinking water demand forecast, which is significantly lower than in 1995, there are important factors that could affect water availability. For example, unpredictable effects of climate change, such as prolonged drought, could affect available water from the Potomac River, which is especially sensitive~~ may have an impact on resources that would change the study results, especially given the sensitivity of Potomac reservoirs to changes in historical streamflow. One positive trend is the water conservation efforts of recent years. ~~The ICPRB 2005 study noted that single family household water use rates declined approximately 18 percent between 1990 and 2000 in the Washington area. The 2015 ICPRB study found that the Washington Metro area's efforts towards sustainable demand have been successful. While the area's population rose by approximately 18 percent from 1990 to 2015, its water demand has remained constant. The relatively consistent demand can be attributed to the falling per household demand which is forecasted to be reduced further by approximately 25 gallons per day between 2015 and 2040.~~ The study also noted that supplier programs encouraging conservation were an important factor behind this trend. 1303.2
- 1303.3 The following policy states the District's commitment to plan for the long-term adequacy of water supply. It is supplemented by policies in the Environmental Protection Element on water conservation. 1303.3
- 1303.4 *Policy IN-1.1.1: Adequate Water Supply*  
Ensure a safe, adequate water supply, including in times of stress such as drought, to serve current and future District ~~of Columbia~~ needs by working with other regional jurisdictions, the ~~Army Corps of Engineers~~ USACE and ~~WASA~~ DC Water. 1303.4
- 1304 IN-1.2 Modernizing Drinking Water Infrastructure 1304
- 1304.1 In conjunction with ~~WASA~~ DC Water, ~~the District~~ Washington, DC must consider the impacts of new development and ensure that water infrastructure will be able to meet future demand while maintaining water quality and reliability. Planned improvements to the water system involve normal maintenance to replace

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aging water distribution mains and small diameter pipes, and upgrades to keep pace with population growth and new development. This may also include ~~the addition of~~ new water storage facilities, increasing the capacity of certain water mains, and upgrading pump stations. 1304.1

- 1304.2 ~~WASA's Capital Improvement Program has identified the need for several new storage facilities to support growth projections. These facilities will provide additional water pressure to certain areas of the District as well as emergency backup service. Two million gallons of elevated storage is needed in the southern half of the Anacostia First High service area. WASA has worked with the District and reached an agreement to site this water storage tank on the East Campus of St. Elizabeths Hospital. Currently, necessary approvals and permits are being pursued, including historic preservation approvals that will ensure no historic structures on the campus are negatively impacted. Some areas east of the Anacostia River have historically experienced low water pressure. To improve the pressure, DC Water built a new pumping station in 2008, and in 2018 completed the construction of a new two-million-gallon water storage tower and new transmission mains at St. Elizabeths. These elements collectively created a new water service zone (new pressure area) south of the Ft. Stanton area. Another two million gallon elevated storage tank will be needed in the fourth high service area in the Upper Northwest. The Washington Aqueduct CIP also calls for storage improvements at the Georgetown Reservoir and for additional dewatering facilities at the Dalecarlia water treatment/reservoir site.~~ 1304.2

- NEW In 2013, DC Water adopted Blue Horizon 2020, a strategic plan aimed at realigning the way water and wastewater are managed in Washington, DC. The plan seeks to manage water, wastewater, and stormwater more holistically, recognizing that drinking water is a scarce commodity subject to a variety of threats and challenges. One of the goals of Blue Horizon 2020 is to optimally manage infrastructure. The plan sets the objective of replacing or rehabilitating one percent of linear water infrastructure annually. It calls for an increased focus on preventive maintenance, including development of a Comprehensive Asset Management Plan. It also seeks to use alternative technologies and innovation to create more sustainable, cost-effective operations.

- NEW Policy IN-1.2.1: Managing Water Systems  
Take an integrated approach to the planning of water, wastewater and stormwater facilities and services. The merging of these systems will serve as the basis of one water approach for both planning and management, which will balance the water environment and lead to better water services.

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**NEW****Policy IN-1.2.2: Drinking Water Quality**

**Ensure drinking water in Washington, DC is both clean and safe to residents, workers and visitors.**

- 1304.3 *Policy IN-1.2.~~3~~: Modernizing and Rehabilitating Water Infrastructure*  
 Work proactively with **WASA DC Water** to repair and replace aging infrastructure, and to upgrade the water distribution system to meet current and future demand. The District will support water system improvement programs that rehabilitate or replace undersized, defective, or deteriorating mains. The District will also support concurrent programs that ensure that lines are flushed in order to eliminate the potential for stagnant water to accumulate at the ends of water mains. ~~ANCs and community organizations should be consulted in the siting of any new facilities to ensure that the potential for adverse impacts are appropriately addressed.~~ 1304.3
- 1304.4 *Policy IN-1.2.~~24~~: Ensuring Adequate Water Pressure*  
 Work proactively with **WASA DC Water** to provide land for new storage tanks and other necessary operations so that adequate water supply and pressure can be provided to all areas of the District. The siting and design of water storage tanks and similar facilities should be consistent with the policies of the Urban Design and Environmental Protection Elements, and should minimize visual impacts ~~and “skylining”~~. **with special consideration to views effects on of** ridges or hills. 1304.4
- 1304.5 *Action IN-1.2.A: Water System Maps*  
 Support **WASA DC Water** efforts to update water system maps to accurately show pipelines, valves, and hydrants, as well as the age, material, size, and lining of pipelines. 1304.5
- 1304.6 *Action IN-1.2.B: Small Diameter Water Main Rehabilitation Program*  
 Continue the implementation of the Small Diameter Water Main Rehabilitation Program as identified in the **WASA DC Water** CIP. Work includes rehabilitating small-diameter (12-inch diameter and smaller) water mains to improve water pressure, system reliability, and flows in the system, as well as to maintain water quality. 1304.6
- 1304.7 *Action IN-1.2.C: Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Improvements*  
~~Implement the planned improvements for the McMillan and Dalecarlia WTPs as identified in the Washington Aqueduct CIP. Planned improvements at McMillan include elevator and crane replacements and building renovations. Planned improvements at Dalecarlia include building, roadway and security improvements and clearwell cleaning and disinfection.~~ **Continue the assessment of advanced water treatment processes that use ozonation, biologically active filters, ultraviolet light disinfection, and other innovative approaches to treat water.** 1304.7

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**NEW****Action IN-1.2.D: Residential Lead Line Replacement Program**

**Explore opportunities to assist District homeowners in affordably replacing lead service lines, complementing DC Water's program.**

*Please consult the Environmental Protection Element for **additional** policies on drinking water quality and water conservation.*

1305

IN-2 Wastewater and Stormwater Systems 1305

1305.1

This section of the Element addresses wastewater and stormwater needs as well as ~~WASA~~ **DC Water**'s efforts to improve its system to meet current and future needs. Although wastewater and stormwater disposal needs are very different, they are addressed together in this section because of the physical links that currently exist between the two systems. 1305.1

1305.2

Like many older American cities, **a significant portion of the District Washington, DC** ~~of Columbia~~ **is served by a combined sewer system challenged with aging infrastructure needs, including maintenance. The existing sanitary sewer system dates as far back as 1810 and includes materials such as brick, vitrified clay, and cast iron. Current sewer construction materials typically consist of PVC, ductile iron, and concrete. This wide array of materials is distributed across an approximately 1,800-mile wastewater system, creating a complex set of maintenance considerations and needs.**

**NEW**

**A significant portion of Washington, DC is served by a combined sewer system. Such systems, which use the same pipes to convey stormwater and wastewater (sewage), were common in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries. Combined sewer systems are prevalent in the downtown area and in older portions of the District, and are considered a relic of the past due to their damaging environmental effects. Under normal conditions, the water from these systems is able to be treated; however, when stressed by significant storm events the capacity of the system is overwhelmed, and combined sewer overflows (CSOs) occur. In some of these events, the combined sewer system cannot accommodate the increase in stormwater, causing a mixture of wastewater and stormwater to overflow into local waterways. There are presently 53 CSO outfalls listed in DC Water's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit. The NPDES permit program, created in 1972, addresses water pollution by regulating point sources of water pollution and is administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In wet weather, or about once every 10 days on average, the capacity of the District's conveyance system is exceeded. Excess raw sewage and rain water would flows into the District's waterways via more than 60 53 permitted outfalls along rivers and streams. This discharge is called Combined Sewer Overflow**

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~~(CSO). Plans to reduce CSO while meeting the city's future drainage and wastewater needs are discussed below.~~ 1305.2

**NEW**

**DC Water's current CSO Abatement Program combines projects to maximize storage of stormwater and wastewater, and to minimize overflows to receiving waters. The program consists of inflatable dams, dynamically controlled weirs, outfall gates and other flow-regulating devices, sewer separations and a swirl treatment facility. The Northeast Boundary Swirl Facility provides preliminary treatment including disinfection and some solids removal for combined sewage overflows prior to discharge during wet weather. In addition, the DC Clean Rivers Project is a vast infrastructure program designed to capture and clean wastewater before it reaches the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers as well as Rock Creek. It is described later in this section.**

1306 IN-2.1 Wastewater System 1306

1306.1 ~~The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (WASA)~~ **DC Water** is responsible for wastewater collection and transmission in the District, including operation and maintenance of the sanitary sewer system. ~~The conveyance infrastructure consists of 1,800 miles of sanitary sewers and combined sanitary and stormwater sewers, 22 flow metering stations, and nine wastewater pumping stations.~~ **DC Water operates 1,900 miles of sanitary and combined sewers, 160 flow meters, nine wastewater pumping stations, 16 stormwater pumping stations, 12 inflatable dams and a swirl facility.** ~~WASA is also responsible for 125,000 sewer laterals from its mains to the property boundaries of residential, government, and commercial properties. With a total service area of approximately 725 square miles, DC Water also treats wastewater for approximately 1.6 million people in neighboring jurisdictions, including Montgomery and Prince George's counties in Maryland and Fairfax and Loudoun counties in Virginia.~~ In addition, ~~WASA~~ **DC Water** is responsible for the 50-mile-long Potomac Interceptor System, which provides conveyance of wastewater from areas in Virginia and Maryland to the Blue Plains Treatment Plant. 1306.1

1306.2 ~~The existing sanitary sewer system dates back to 1810 and includes a variety of materials such as brick and concrete, vitrified clay and concrete, reinforced concrete, ductile iron, plastic, steel, brick, cast iron, cast in place concrete, and even fiberglass. Current sewer construction materials typically consist of PVC, ductile iron, and concrete. Force mains are generally constructed of iron, steel, or concrete.~~ 1306.2

1306.3 ~~WASA operates the Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant, located on the Potomac River in Far Southwest. The Plant provides wastewater treatment services to over two million customers, including residents of the District of~~



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~~Columbia and over 1.6 million residents in portions of Montgomery and Prince George's Counties in Maryland and Fairfax and Loudoun Counties in Virginia. Treatment includes liquid process facilities for both sanitary sewer and peak storm flows, along with solids processing facilities.~~ **1306.3 According to Climate Ready DC, stormwater and sewer collection systems will likely need to manage more frequent and severe rain events and potential inundation from sea level rise and coastal storms. Washington, DC is working to ensure water infrastructure will be able to meet future demand by enhancing efficiency and resilience of the system.** 1306.3

1306.4 ~~DC Water's Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant is located at the southernmost tip of Washington, DC, covering more than 150 acres partially fronting the Potomac River. Blue Plains is the largest advanced wastewater treatment facility in the world. It treats an annual average of 290 million gallons per day (mgd) and has a design capacity of 384 mgd, with a peak design capacity to treat more than one billion gallons per day. is rated for an average flow of 370 million gallons per day (MGD). It is required by its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to completely treat a peak flow rate of 740 MGD for up to four hours, and provide continuous treatment flows of up to 511 MGD thereafter. Additionally, up to 336 MGD storm water flow must receive partial treatment, resulting in a total plant capacity of 1,076 MGD.~~ **DC Water's Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant is located at the southernmost tip of Washington, DC, covering more than 150 acres partially fronting the Potomac River. Blue Plains is the largest advanced wastewater treatment facility in the world. It treats an annual average of 290 million gallons per day (mgd) and has a design capacity of 384 mgd, with a peak design capacity to treat more than one billion gallons per day.** 1306.4

1306.5 ~~The 10-year WASA DC Water's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget includes significant capital investment on several large projects such as the Biosolids Management Program, DC Clean Rivers, and the Blue Plains Total Nitrogen Program. As of 2016 the ten-year CIP totals \$3.75 billion with a lifetime budget of \$10.95 billion. (FY 2004—2013) totals \$2.1 billion and is funded by user fees and outside sources such as the USEPA and WASA DC Water's regional partners in Maryland and Virginia. Their CIP identifies a range of sewer replacement projects and system upgrades. WASA DC Water's CIP program also includes several steps to mitigate odors at the Blue Plains Water Treatment Facility. The \$257 million Egg-Shaped, Anaerobic Digestion Facilities will replace the existing digesters, resulting in a less odorous, more consistent end product. The \$79.4 million Dewatering Facilities Plan is designed to minimize odors that occur from biosolids being stored for extended periods. The \$19.8 million Gravity Thickening Facility Upgrade includes funds for the addition of chemicals to the influent flow for odor control.~~ **DC Water's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget includes significant capital investment on several large projects such as the Biosolids Management Program, DC Clean Rivers, and the Blue Plains Total Nitrogen Program. As of 2016 the ten-year CIP totals \$3.75 billion with a lifetime budget of \$10.95 billion.** 1306.5

**NEW**

**Callout Box: Biosolids Management Program**  
**The Walter F. Bailey Bioenergy Facility, which is now operational, significantly reduces DC Water's greenhouse gas emissions. The innovative thermal hydrolysis process uses intense heat and pressure to treat wastewater solids producing a much cleaner biosolid and onsite generation of up to one-third of Blue Plains' electricity needs, enough electricity to power**



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**11,000 homes, and cuts DC Water's electricity bill at Blue Plains by one-third. The increased energy independence will reduce the financial burden on ratepayers while also helping to keep Washington, DC's rivers clean and reducing its carbon footprint.**

**DC Water processes up to 370 million gallons of wastewater per day and separates approximately 400 tons of solids from that water daily. Before the bio-digesters were built, DC Water produced 1,200 tons of solids a day that had to be trucked off of Blue Plains at a cost to ratepayers of more than \$17 million annually and more than two million trucking miles. This new thermal hydrolysis process has resulted in operational efficiencies in biosolids hauling and chemicals costs.**

- 1306.6 ~~The projected growth in population and jobs in the District of Columbia could add an estimated 20 MGD of total water demand, which would result in a commensurate increase in wastewater of 17 to 20 MGD. Approximately two-thirds of this growth is expected to occur within the combined sewer area. While the wastewater transmission system has adequate capacity for this volume, land use changes will require localized additions and pipeline increases. In the combined sewer area, increases should be factored into the planned upgrades under the Combined Sewer System Long Term Control Plan. 1306.6~~
- 1306.7 *Policy IN-2.1.1: Improving Wastewater Collection*  
Provide for the safe and efficient collection of wastewater generated by the households and businesses of the District. Ensure that new development does not exacerbate wastewater system deficiencies, ~~and instead supports improved system efficiency and reliability.~~ 1306.7
- 1306.8 *Policy IN-2.1.2: Investing In Our Wastewater Treatment Facilities*  
Provide sustained capital investment in the District's wastewater treatment system to reduce overflows of untreated sewage and improve the quality of effluent discharged to surface waters. Ensure that the Blue Plains treatment plant is maintained and upgraded as needed to meet capacity needs and to incorporate technological advances in wastewater treatment. 1306.8
- 1306.9 ~~*Policy IN-2.1.3: Sludge Disposal*  
Promote the development of cost-effective and environmentally sound techniques to dispose of sewage sludge, including measures to extract energy from sludge where feasible. 1306.9~~
- 1306.11 ~~*Action Policy*~~ ***Policy** IN-2.1.B3: Unauthorized Storm Sewer Connections*  
~~Locate and map all~~ **Continue to take appropriate measures when illegal** stormwater and sanitary sewer lines outside of the combined sanitary and stormwater system area ~~in order to~~ **are** identified, ~~sanitary lines that may be illegally discharging into the stormwater system. Take~~ **These** appropriate

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corrective measures; **include** penalties and termination of service to abate such unauthorized connections. 1306.11

- 1306.10 *Action IN-2.1.A: Wastewater Treatment Capital Improvements*  
Continue to implement wastewater treatment improvements as identified in the ~~WASA DC Water~~ CIP. These projects include the replacement of undersized, aging, or deteriorated sewers; the installation of sewers to serve areas of new development or **redevelopment** ~~changed development patterns~~; and pumping station force main replacement and rehabilitation. Capital projects are required to rehabilitate, upgrade or provide new facilities at Blue Plains to ensure that it can reliably meet its **National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)** permit requirements ~~and produce a consistent, high-quality dewatered solids product for land application~~ **now and in the future**. 1306.10

**NEW** *Action IN-2.1.B: Onsite Wastewater Treatment*  
**Encourage the use of onsite water collection and reuse systems for any Planned Unit Development. Onsite water systems collect stormwater and treat it so that it can be reused in a building, or at the local, neighborhood scale for non-potable needs including toilet flushing and cooling.**

1307 IN-2.2 Stormwater Management 1307

- 1307.1 The District's storm drainage system consists of approximately ~~8,200 catch basins, 600 miles of storm sewers~~ **1,800 miles of sanitary and combined sewers, and 156 stormwater pumping stations, 75,000 catch basins and manholes, and 22 flow-metering stations.** ~~WASA DC Water~~ also maintains over ~~4500~~ separate storm sewer discharges into local rivers and creeks. Since the early 1900s, separate stormwater and sanitary sewers have been constructed within the District. **In the existing combined sewer area, pipes and infrastructure have been upgraded as new developments connect to the existing system, and no new combined sewers have been built.** 1307.1

- 1307.2 Planned and programmed stormwater improvements include the replacement of undersized or deteriorated storm sewers with new and larger diameter pipes, and the installation of storm sewers to serve areas of new development or **redevelopment** ~~changed development patterns~~. Rehabilitation and replacement of pumping station force mains also ~~are is~~ planned. Regional and inter-governmental cooperation will be needed to maximize the effectiveness of these upgrades (see "Regional Initiatives" text box). 1307.2

*See the Environmental Protection Element for policies and actions related to Low Impact Development, green roofs and other ways to reduce stormwater run-off.*

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- 1307.3 *Policy IN-2.2.1: Improving Stormwater Management*  
Ensure that stormwater is efficiently conveyed, backups are minimized or eliminated, and the quality of receiving waters is sustained. Stormwater management should be an interagency process with clear lines of responsibility with regard to oversight, guidelines, and sources. 1307.3
- NEW** ***Policy IN-2.2.2 Decrease Stormwater Run-off***  
**Reduce stormwater runoff through a variety of approaches, such as raingardens, bioswales, green roofs, trees, cisterns, and pervious pavement. By 2032 capture, retain or reuse storm water from at least 10 percent of Washington DC's land area. Focus on areas that flood regularly, have steep topography, or have known drainage capacity issues.**
- NEW** ***Policy IN-2.2.3: Storm Water Retention Credits***  
**Support ongoing District initiatives to reduce stormwater runoff, such as DOEE's Stormwater Retention Credit Trading Program, which allows property owners to generate and sell Stormwater Retention Credits (SRCs) to earn revenue for projects that reduce stormwater runoff through installation of green infrastructure or removal of impervious surfaces.**
- 1307.4 *Action IN-2.2.A: Stormwater Capital Improvements*  
Continue the implementation of stormwater capital improvements as identified in the ~~WASA~~ **DC Water** Capital improvement program. 1307.4
- 1307.5 *Action IN-2.2.B: Stormwater Management Responsibilities*  
**Continue to refine the** ~~Develop an~~ integrated process ~~to manage~~**inge** stormwater, **in compliance with the Comprehensive Stormwater Management Enhancement Amendment Act of 2008,** that enhances interagency communication and formally assigns responsibility and funding to manage stormwater drainage. This process should include:
- an appropriate funding mechanism to consistently maintain Clean Water standards and reduce surface runoff;
  - clear lines of responsibility with regard to which agency provides oversight, guidelines, and resources for the stormwater system and its management; **and**
  - ~~consistent and reliable funding sources to maintain Clean Water standards and reduce surface water runoff; and~~
  - assurance that stormwater improvements associated with new development are coordinated with the ~~WASA~~ **DC Water** Capital Improvement Plan. 1307.5
- NEW** ***Action IN-2.2.C Rainwater Reuse***  
**Develop guidance on the installation, treatment, monitoring controls and inspections for rainwater reuse for non-potable purposes.**

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## 1307.6 Callout Box: Regional Initiatives 1307.6

~~The District has participated in several Chesapeake Bay Stormwater Initiatives in the past few years. The Chesapeake 2000 Agreement, undertaken in partnership with the EPA, the Chesapeake Bay Commission, and Maryland, DC, and Virginia, resulted in a directive called “Managing Stormwater on State, Federal and District Owned Lands and Facilities.” The directive called for better management of stormwater on public lands and facilities, which comprise more than 13 percent of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The ultimate goal is to prevent stormwater problems resulting from increased development and to remediate stormwater problems on lands that have already been developed.~~

~~The 2001 Anacostia Watershed Restoration Agreement established new comprehensive goals for restoring water quality and living resources in the Anacostia basin. These goals include the creation of additional riparian forest buffers, decreasing impervious surface area through low impact development, and establishing active river advocacy groups in each major Anacostia subwatershed.~~

**On June 16, 2014 the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement was signed. Signatories included representatives from the entire watershed. The agreement commits the Bay’s headwater states to full partnership in the Bay Program. This is a historic agreement, as it facilitates coordination across the Bay’s political boundaries. The agreement establishes goals and outcomes for the restoration of the Bay, its tributaries, and the lands that surround them.**

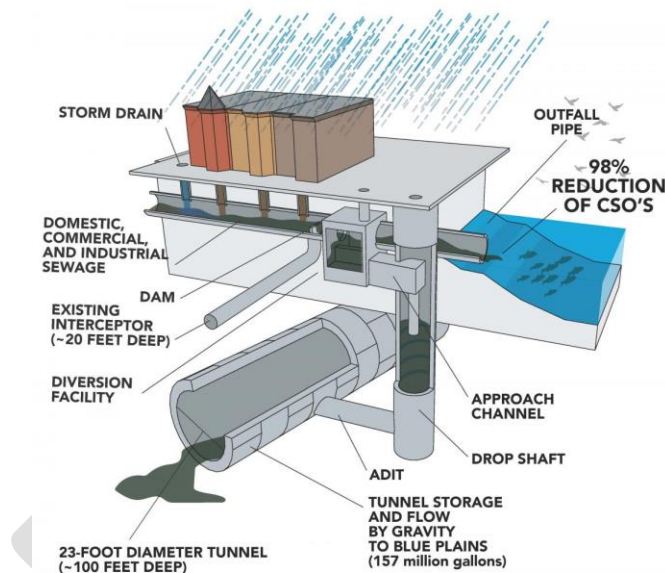
## 1308 IN-2.3 Combined Sewer System (Css) 1308

1308.1 As noted earlier, a portion of the District’s sewer system includes combined wastewater and stormwater pipes. This area encompasses about 12,600 acres—or one-third of the District’s land area (see Figure 13.34). A majority of this area was developed before 1900. 1308.1

1308.2 ~~In 2002, WASA developed a Long-Term Control Plan (LTCP) to eliminate Combined Sewer Outfalls and thereby improve water quality (see text box on next page). A key component of the plan is the construction of four large tunnels which will allow runoff to be stored and then transported to the Blue Plains Wastewater Plant for treatment and gradual release. Two of the tunnels will be located near the Anacostia River, one will be near the Potomac River, and one will be near Rock Creek. The LTCP also includes separation of combined sewers in several sections of the District, consolidation and elimination of 13 of the 60 outfalls, and implementation of Low Impact Development (LID) practices at WASA facilities and across the District. The project will take 20 years to complete and has a projected construction cost of over \$1.2 billion.~~ **The Clean Rivers Project is DC Water's ongoing program to reduce combined sewer overflows (CSO's) into the District's waterways - the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers and Rock Creek. The Project is a large-scale infrastructure and support program designed to capture and clean wastewater during rainfalls**

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before it reaches these water bodies. The project aims to stop the chronic sewer overflows that have plagued Washington, DC since the early 1900s. The project is comprised of a system of deep tunnels, sewers and diversion facilities that capture CSOs and deliver them to DC Water's Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant, where the water is treated and cleaned before release to the District's rivers. Figure 13.3 illustrates the system. 1308.2

**NEW****Figure 13.3: DC Water's Clean River Tunnel System**

*(Source: DC Water 2018)*

**NEW**

The Clean Rivers Project includes installation of Green Infrastructure that includes green roofs, permeable pavements, and bioretention areas, such as tree boxes and bioswales to assist with reduction of CSO's to the Anacostia River, Potomac River, and Rock Creek. The Anacostia River and Potomac River tunnel systems include more than 18 miles of tunnels that are larger than the Metro tunnels and located more than 100 feet below the ground. With the current sewer system, practically every time it rains, untreated sewage and rainwater (combined sewage) is discharged into Washington, DC's rivers and creeks. The Clean Rivers project will install "diversion facilities" at strategic locations to capture this untreated sewage and divert it to the 157-million-gallon tunnel system where it will be stored and subsequently conveyed to the Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant for treatment.

**NEW**

The DC Clean Rivers Project is estimated to reduce CSOs annually by up to 96 percent throughout the system and by up to 98 percent for the Anacostia River. In addition, the Project will reduce the chance of flooding in the areas

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it serves from approximately 50 percent to 7 percent (equivalent to a 15-year storm) in any given year and reduce nitrogen discharged to the Chesapeake Bay by approximately one million pounds per year.

**NEW****Callout Box: Green Infrastructure and Local Employment**

In addition to helping reduce CSOs, Green Infrastructure can also provide additional triple bottom line (environmental, social and economic) benefits to the District. An additional agreement between DC Water and Washington, DC will support local job creation through the implementation of green infrastructure. The agreement, signed in 2015, created the Infrastructure Academy, an ambitious local jobs program that includes training and certification opportunities for District residents interested in green infrastructure construction, inspection and maintenance jobs. DC Water has established a goal to have 51 percent of new jobs created by the green infrastructure project filled by District residents. DC Water will also engage professional service firms and contractors based in Washington, DC to perform work associated with green infrastructure.

1308.3 ~~When fully implemented, combined sewer overflows will be reduced by a projected 96 percent (98 percent on the Anacostia River), resulting in improved water quality and less debris in local waterways. Overflow events would be reduced to two per year in the Anacostia River, four per year on the Potomac and Rock Creek, and one per year at Piney Branch. 1308.3~~

1308.4 The ~~LTCP DC Clean Rivers Project~~ provides for an effective balancing of cost, benefits and environmental protection that will greatly reduce CSO discharges. However, even with the full implementation of the ~~LTCP Project~~, CSO discharges will still occasionally occur. Additional provisions to improve water quality will also be needed. 1308.4

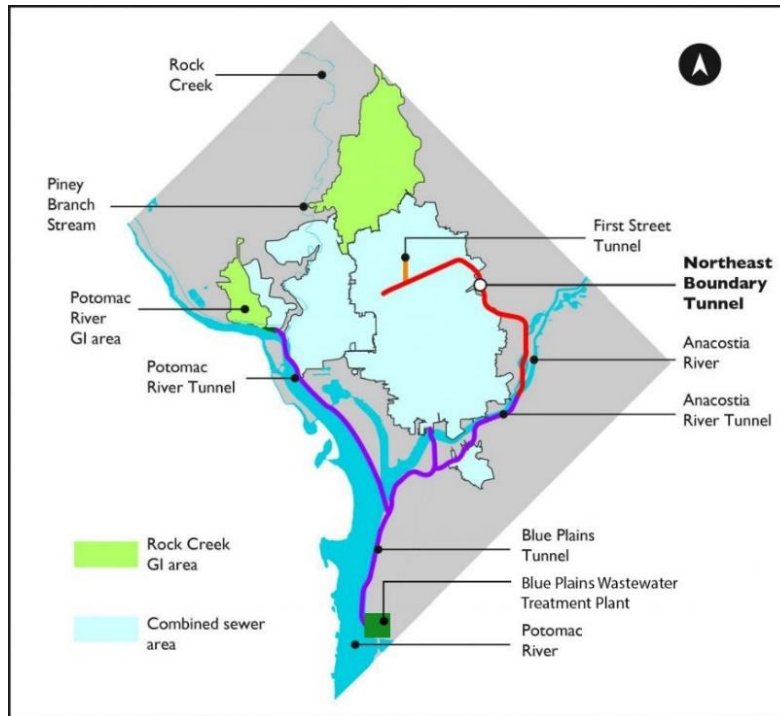
*See the Environmental Protection Element for additional information on sewer overflow conditions as well as the need to update the District's water quality standards.*



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**NEW**

Figure 13-~~34~~**34**: Combined Sewer System Area **and Tunnel System** 1308.5  
**Updated to reflect new data**



**(Source: DC Water, 2018)**

1308.6 *Policy IN-2.3.1: Reducing CSO Outfalls **and Overflow Events***  
 Reduce the **number of** Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) outfalls **that drain into** the region's rivers, **and reduce the number of CSO events by completing implementation**~~ing WASA~~ **DC Water's Clean Rivers Project which will reduce CSO outfall events CSOs by 98 percent to the Anacostia River and 96 percent system-wide when fully implemented** ~~Long-Term Control Plan (LTCP).~~  
 1308.6

1308.7 *Action IN-2.3.A: Rehabilitate Pumps*  
 Rehabilitate and maintain pump stations to support **the Clean Rivers Project** ~~LTCP~~ and off-load stormwater in targeted combined sewer areas. 1308.7

1308.8 *Action IN-2.3.B: Federal Funding*  
 Pursue federal funding to cover an equitable share of the **Clean Rivers Project as the federal government was the original designer and builder of the system, is a major user of the combined sewer system, and as a significant beneficiary of the effort.** ~~LTCP. Also, pursue funding from Maryland and Virginia and consider a graduated rate structure for residents as a water conservation initiative.~~  
 1308.8

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1309 IN-3 Solid Waste 1309

1309.1 The District-~~owned solid waste facilities transfer~~ ~~generates~~ roughly ~~64~~50,000 tons of ~~Municipal~~ solid waste (~~MSW~~) per year, which is collected ~~and processed~~ by both public and private ~~facilities~~ solid waste collectors. Municipal Solid Waste consists of everyday items such as product packaging, food waste, furniture and other household items, clothing, and larger bulk items such as household appliances. The District Department of Public Works (DPW) Solid Waste Management Administration is responsible for waste collection services from all government entities and approximately ~~140~~5,000 single-family homes and residential buildings with up to three living units. Private ~~haulers~~ solid waste collectors handle ~~trash~~ solid waste from commercial establishments and multi-family residential ~~establishments~~ buildings containing four or more units, including condominium and apartment buildings with more than three units. The Department of General Services (DGS) is responsible for managing solid waste generated at District Government facilities. Approximately ~~70~~ 63 percent of the ~~annual~~ solid waste received by the two in-the District-~~owned solid waste transfer stations~~ is from commercial sources and multi-family residences, while ~~30~~ 37 percent is generated from DPW-serviced ~~other~~ residential uses and the government sector. 1309.1

1309.2 ~~In addition to waste collection, the DPW collects 5,000 tons of bulk trash and provides recycling service, household hazardous waste collection, leaf and yard waste collection, and dead animal removal. The DPW is also responsible for street and alley cleaning and solid waste education and enforcement. The DPW Office of Recycling is responsible for education, technical assistance, outreach, and enforcement. District recyclables are sorted at the Eagle Recovery Facility on North Capitol Street for sales and remanufacturing. The text box on the next page describes DC recycling regulations. DPW provides trash collection, recycling collection, leaf and yard waste collection and dead animal removal in the District. At the Fort Totten transfer station, DPW manages residential drop-off of household hazardous and electronic waste as well as paper shredding services, DPW is also responsible for street and alley cleaning. The Solid Waste Education and Enforcement team at DPW is responsible for education, technical assistance, outreach and enforcement. The DPW Office of Waste Diversion is responsible for Districtwide waste diversion policy and planning.~~ 1309.2

NEW The Mayor's Office of the Clean City is the central point of contact and champion for preventing and reducing litter and trash pollution in Washington, DC. The Office collaborates with other District agencies to ensure cleanliness of the city, encouraging businesses, neighborhoods and visitors to help reduce trash, pick up litter, sweep sidewalks, and discourage graffiti. It works to strengthen existing laws, to improve procedures and enhance regulations to keep the District clean.

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*See the Environmental Protection Element for information and policies on recycling, composting and reducing the solid waste stream.*

- 1309.3 ~~Many new landfills collect potentially harmful landfill gas emissions and convert the gas into energy. The EPA's Landfill Methane Outreach Program (LMOP) promotes the use of landfill gas as a renewable, green energy source. Landfill gas is primarily carbon dioxide and methane, both by-products of the decomposition of solid waste. While there are currently no landfill gas-to-energy (LFGE) projects or candidate landfills in the District, both Maryland and Virginia encourage and support such projects at landfills within those states.~~ 1309.3
- 1309.4 Call Out: DC ~~Recycling Regulations~~ **Rules** 1309.4  
~~the District's **Residential** and commercial recycling programs are managed by DPW is required in the District. DPW residential recycling is voluntary and~~  
 includes a pickup on the same day as trash pick-up. Commercial recycling is required by law. Any premise not authorized to receive municipal trash and recycling collection services, or containing a unit used for non-residential purposes, is considered a business or commercial establishment. Under DC law, all **commercial properties must implement a recycling program. In January 2018, a new list of materials required to be recycled was published. For the first time, the same items will be required to be recycled in all commercial and residential properties across the District.** ~~businesses located in the District must submit a bi-annual recycling plan to the Department of Public Works Office of recycling and implement an ongoing recycling program~~ **must implement a recycling program**. This program must include:
- ~~• separation of recyclables from other solid waste;~~
  - ~~• adequate number of containers for separated recyclables; and~~
  - ~~• hiring a licensed, registered recycling hauler to regularly pick up recyclables (or, in certain circumstances, establishing a system where an entity may haul away its recyclables on its own).~~
- 1310 IN-3.1 Solid Waste Transfer Facilities 1310
- 1310.1 An efficient solid waste transfer station system is essential for the District. There are currently ~~five~~ **four** solid waste transfer facilities, ~~three~~ **two** of which are privately owned and two of which are District operated. ~~Map 13.1 on the next page shows the location of these stations.~~ **The DPW operated transfer stations are the Fort Totten Facility, located at 4900 John McCormack Drive NE, and the Benning Road Facility located at 3200 Benning Road NE. At each transfer station, waste is consolidated, sorted, and loaded onto long-haul trailers for transfer to landfills, energy facilities, recycling facilities, or compost facilities across the region. Of the municipal solid waste (MSW) managed by District-owned transfer stations, A**approximately 60 percent ~~of the District's municipal solid waste~~ is processed at the Fort Totten **Transfer**

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Station and the remaining 40 percent ~~is processed~~ at the Benning Road **Transfer facility Station**. All ~~municipal solid waste~~ **MSW in Washington, DC** is removed by truck ~~from the area~~ since there are no active incinerators or landfills ~~within~~ the District. ~~Trash is loaded onto long-haul trailers for removal to landfills as far away as North Carolina~~ 1310.1

1310.2 ~~Map 13.1: Trash Transfer Stations in the District of Columbia~~ 1310.2

1310.3 ~~The Benning Road facility was recently renovated; the Department of Public Works estimates that it has a functional capacity of 2,000 tons per day. The Fort Totten facility is scheduled to undergo major repairs to improve building safety and operations, including environmental pollution control measures. Major improvements will include brickwork and masonry repair, replacement of foundations and roofs, repair of utility systems, and replacement of machinery. Once these improvements are completed, the District will be able to process more than 4,000 tons daily including trash that was formerly handled by privately operated trash transfer stations. The text box to the right provides more information about trash transfer facilities.~~ 1310.3

1310.4 ~~The District~~ **Washington, DC** does not currently ~~have~~ **operate** a construction and demolition debris (C&D) transfer station, but it does permit disposal of a limited amount of C&D at the Fort Totten processing station. Large-scale commercial building debris disposal is handled privately. The majority of C&D is currently processed by several transfer stations in the surrounding areas of southern Maryland and northern Virginia. 1310.4

1310.5 *Policy IN-3.1.1: Solid Waste Collection*  
Ensure safe, reliable, adequate solid waste collection from residences, business establishments, institutions and other facilities. 1310.5

1310.6 *Policy IN-3.1.32: Reducing Community Impacts*  
Reduce the adverse effects of solid waste facilities, including noise, odors, and truck traffic, on District neighborhoods. 1310.6

**NEW** **Policy IN-3.1.3 Zero Waste**  
**Work to achieve Zero Waste in the District by 2032 by diverting 80 percent or more of waste generated in the District. This diversion can be achieved through reuse, composting, and recycling.**

**NEW** **Policy IN-3.1.4: Enhancing DPW Operations**  
**Explore approaches for enhancing DPW operations, achieving outcomes such as cleaner, healthier and more efficient DPW services and through innovative design solutions and related partnerships. Some of these approaches are contained in the West Virginia Avenue Public Works (DPW) 2016 Campus Master Plan.**

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1310.9

Callout Box: What Is a Solid Waste Transfer Facility? 1310.9

A solid waste transfer facility is a light industrial facility where trash collection trucks discharge their loads for ~~compacting~~ **transfer from small collection vehicles to larger long-haul vehicles**. ~~Once compacted, trash~~ **Solid waste** is reloaded onto larger vehicles (e.g. trucks, trains and barges) for shipment to a final disposal site. Transfer facilities are typically fully enclosed. Workers screen incoming wastes on the receiving floor or in an earthen pit, recovering materials from the waste stream that can be recycled and separating out any inappropriate wastes (e.g. tires, large appliances, automobile batteries). Transfer facility operators usually unload, ~~compact~~, **reload**, and transport waste off the site in a matter of hours.

~~The District undertook a Needs Assessment and Site Selection Study for trash transfer stations in 2000-2001 to assess the adequacy of existing facilities and determine how future needs might be met. among the recommendations of the study were:~~

- ~~• Changes to siting and permitting requirements, including setback and buffering standards;~~
- ~~• Upgrading of the Fort Totten and Benning Road transfer stations;~~
- ~~• Development of drop-off facilities for residents at Fort Totten and Benning road; and~~
- ~~• Further analysis of costs, needs, public education programs, and employee training initiatives.~~

1310.7

~~Action IN-3.1.A: *Upgrade Fort Totten Facility*~~ **Evaluate Transfer Station Needs**

~~Upgrade the Fort Totten transfer facility to provide a fully enclosed, modern solid waste transfer station to meet the District's solid waste needs. Consider expansion of this facility to provide adequate space to meet other solid waste needs, including vehicle storage, "white goods" such as washing machines, refrigerators and other large household appliances, and other special waste disposal.~~ **Evaluate the need for expansion of District-owned transfer stations to ensure adequate space for proper handling of all types of separated waste including refuse, recycling, organic waste, bulk waste, and hard-to-recycle items.** 1310.7

1310.8

~~Action IN-3.1.B: *Trash Transfer*~~ **Waste Processing Facility Regulations**

Enact regulatory changes that enable the private sector to provide more efficient, **cleaner, and more environmentally-friendly waste processing facilities for all types of solid waste.** ~~trash transfer stations, be in compliance with enforceable regulations, and potentially provide a much needed state-of-the-art construction and demolition waste processing site under private operation and ownership.~~ **Collaborate across agencies including, DPW, Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA), and the Department of Energy and the Environment (DOEE) to address this need.** Work with ANCs and community

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organizations in drafting these regulations to ensure that neighborhood concerns are addressed. 1310.8

**NEW****Action IN-3.1.C: Develop Zero Waste and Solid Waste Management Plan**

**Develop a holistic plan that includes all waste streams, and related strategies to enable Washington, DC to reach its goal of 80 percent waste diversion. Strategies should include transfer station modernization needs, optimization of residential drop-off locations, and consideration of waste streams that include refuse, compostable materials and recyclable materials, including hard-to-recycle items.**

**See the Environmental Protection Element for additional policies and actions on waste management, recycling and composting.**

1311 IN-4 ~~Telecommunications~~ **Digital Infrastructure** 1311

1311.1 ~~Telecommunication is the transmission of information by wire, radio, optical cable, electromagnetic, or other means.~~ The provision of high-quality digital infrastructure—wireless networks, fiber optics, and broadband telecommunications—is important to residents and businesses, and is vital to economic development. Such infrastructure is critical in the 21st century, particularly given the security and information needs of the national capital. 1311.1

**NEW**

**Infrastructure solutions now include a wide variety of technologies such as smart grids and utility systems, intelligent buildings, and mobility solutions that contribute to greater accessibility to city services, more efficient and cost-effective management of city assets and resources, and a more resilient and sustainable ecosystem overall.**

**NEW**

**Technology advances will continue to progress rapidly. Physical changes to infrastructure will be needed to integrate these new technologies, including enhanced wireless infrastructure and updated fiber to help accommodate the increased speed and volume needed for the digital communication. The advancement of technology will also impact the way infrastructure is used in Washington, DC. Technology will create new ways for infrastructure systems to be integrated and to become more efficient. The District should start planning for potential related opportunities and implications of these changes.**

1311.2 ~~The District's Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) is responsible for improving, enhancing, and expanding wireless technology, communications systems, and electronic commerce in the District. OCTO develops and enforces policies and standards for information technology in District government and identifies where and how technology can systematically support the business~~



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~~processes of the District's 68 agencies.~~ **The District's Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) is responsible for planning, maintaining, and expanding digital technology infrastructure and communications systems in the District, and for developing and enforcing related policies and standards.**

1311.2

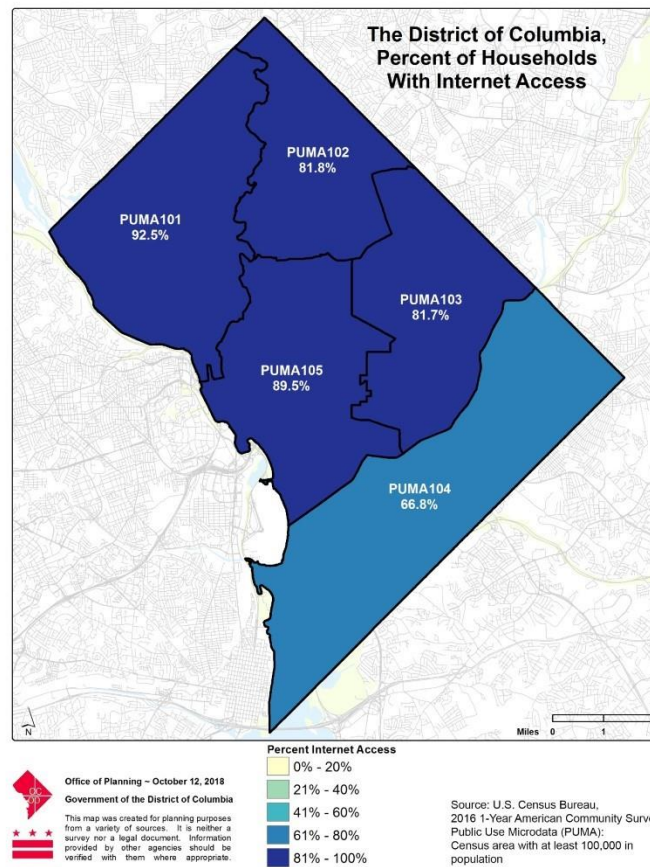
1311.4 ~~In order to elevate the stature of the District, the "City of Access" initiative provides free Internet access and free or low-cost computer sites for DC residents. The initiative also aims to expand Internet access and technology training in DC neighborhoods by combining public and private institutional resources.~~ 1311.4

1312 IN-4.1 ~~Planning and Coordination of~~ Telecommunications Infrastructure 1312

1312.1 Localities such as the District ~~of Columbia can~~ plan for and regulate telecommunications infrastructure ~~within the limitations of Section 253 of~~ **in accordance with** the 1996 Telecommunications Act, **as well as other regulations and orders issued by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).** ~~The Act prohibits local governments from imposing statutes, regulations, or other barriers that would have the effect of prohibiting a telecommunications provider from entering the market. It defines the authority of local government to plan and regulate such attributes as facility location, height, setbacks, and safety standards. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has the overall responsibility for regulating the interstate and international telecommunications industry and has the ability to preempt local actions that do not conform to the provisions or the intent of the Act.~~ **Washington, DC seeks to implement telecommunications policies that advance its initiatives to broaden technology infrastructure and wireless accessibility throughout the District, often in coordination with private industry and federal stakeholders.** 1312.1

**NEW** **Digital access has become a necessity for most residents of the District. The digital divide is commonly understood to be the gap between people with useful access to digital and information technologies and those with little to no access at all. Bridging this divide can help contribute to the long-term success, inclusion, and equity in the city. OCTO's "Connect DC" program works to increase digital literacy, improve access to devices, and provide digital connectivity to underserved District residents. Figure 13.5 shows internet access in the District.**

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**NEW****Figure 13.5: Internet Access**

**(Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 1-Year ACS Public Use Microdata)**

1311.3 ~~OCTO has initiated DC NET, a fiber optic telecommunications network supplying District consumers with complete voice, data, video and wireless communications services. The system consists of interconnected strands of optical plastic from various providers that, when completed, will connect the majority of government and quasi-governmental services in the District. These include radio towers; police, fire and emergency management facilities; administrative buildings; public schools and libraries; recreation and community centers; District-owned hospitals and clinics; and semi-governmental entities such as WASA, WMATA and UDC. OCTO's DC-Net program provides managed voice, data and video services to local, regional and federal government agencies within the District over a District-owned high-capacity, secure and redundant fiber optic telecommunications platform. The security and reliability of DC-Net are paramount because District agencies are highly reliant on the carrier for voice communications, public safety applications, traffic management, parking management, financial data transactions and security operations. This standards-based platform is the foundation for next-generation government and public safety communications throughout~~

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Washington, DC and will help to enable Smart City solutions across the city, discussed in IN-4.2 Leveraging New and Emerging Technology. 1311.3

**NEW**

Minimizing the digital divide through solutions including expanding public wireless internet access, digital literacy programs, and job opportunities and technical internships focusing on digitally-underserved neighborhoods are core goals for Washington, DC.

**NEW**

Callout Box: Pennsylvania Avenue 2040 Initiative

The District, in partnership with the Golden Triangle Business Improvement District (BID), the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC), and private companies, launched the Pennsylvania Avenue 2040 (PA 2040) initiative to enhance visitors' experience on "America's Main Street" by implementing Smart City technologies. PA 2040 included free broadband public Wi-Fi for the three-block corridor. Some of the initial technologies and applications tested in PA 2040 included moisture sensing in tree beds, smart waste management, and movement analytics.

The PA 2040 project is working to create a better experience for users of the west Pennsylvania Avenue corridor. The project demonstrated effective interagency collaboration. This working model will be applied to new projects. As the District's established test area for Smart City applications, PA 2040 provides an environment to measure the impacts of Smart City technology.

1312.2

~~In the District, the federal sector, local government, commercial industry, and general public rely heavily on radiofrequency services, facilities, and devices. In recent years, this demand has necessitated the location of new antennae on both federal and private land. The District Zoning Commission has established development standards for antenna towers and the National Capital Planning Commission has written guidelines for antennas on federal property in the National Capital Region. Both sets of guidelines govern the appropriate location of radiofrequency facilities for functional and aesthetic reasons, protecting the operational needs of federal installations and preserving parklands and important viewsheds. The planning regulations that govern the location of new antennas and towers for human health or safety are found in the Federal Elements of the Comprehensive Plan. These policies suggest joint use and co-location of antennae, interior attenuation devices, and prudent avoidance to high exposures of electromagnetic fields.~~ 1312.2

1312.3

*Policy IN-4.1.1: Development of Communications Infrastructure*

Washington, DC should plan, coordinate and oversee development and maintenance of communications infrastructure including cable networks, fiber optic networks, and wireless communications facilities to help support daily functions, and goals related to equity and opportunity, economic development,

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transportation, public health and safety, security, resilience, and education goals. 1312.3

- 1312.4 *Policy IN-4.1.2: Digital Infrastructure Accessibility*  
Strategically expand the public wireless coverage that provides District residents, workers, and visitors access to highly reliable and secure internet-based services. ~~Promote digital infrastructure that provides affordable broadband data communications anywhere, anytime to the residents of the District. Investigate the cost-effectiveness of providing municipally-owned wireless broadband connectivity to guarantee more affordable high-speed internet access for residents, businesses, schools, and community organizations.~~ 1312.4

NEW *Policy IN-4.1.3: Equitable Digital Access*  
Enhance access to digital services in the District to reduce the digital divide, strategically expanding public wireless coverage to serve underserved communities and providing such access at schools, libraries and other District government facilities.

NEW *Policy IN-4.1.4: Cyber Resiliency for Digital Infrastructure*  
Ensure Washington, DC's digital infrastructure is adequately protected from both physical and digital threats by using best practices and enhancing operational capabilities.

- 1312.5 *Action IN-4.1.A: Guidelines for Siting/Design of Facilities*  
 Establish locational and design criteria for under- and above-ground telecommunication facilities including conduit systems, small cells, antennas, towers, switching centers, and system maintenance facilities. In addition, establish provisions to put cables and wires underground wherever feasible. Consult with ANC's and community groups in the development of siting criteria. 1312.5

*See the Environmental Protection Element for additional policies and actions on the siting of telecommunication towers and transmission facilities.*

NEW IN-4.2 Leveraging New and Emerging Technology

NEW Digital technology is enabling Washington, DC to enhance infrastructure systems and to create new ways to serve and support neighborhoods. The District's Smart City approach leverages intelligent city infrastructure, connected devices, sensors and data analytics to address city challenges and improve quality of life for residents, enhance economic growth and mobility, and improve city operations and services.

NEW As digital technology advances, digital communications and information processing will become more important. The Internet of Things is the

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network comprised of physical devices including computers, cell phones, vehicles, and any other device that can connect to the internet and exchange data. This connectivity will allow new opportunities for infrastructure systems to be integrated, with electrical systems, water systems, and other infrastructure coordinating operations.

**NEW** Testing applications of technology through pilot programs provides opportunities for the District to inform decision making, develop new methods for integration, and create a flexible environment for investing in infrastructure. Urban prototyping allows the District to experiment with different pilots and technology applications, with the ability to learn and build on previous efforts.

**NEW** Infrastructure technologies are evolving and proliferating rapidly and are expected to include notable changes including deployment of improved wireless connectivity such as small cell/5G wireless. It is important that Washington, DC be responsive and flexible as new technologies emerge.

**NEW** Innovations in technology will create opportunities for the optimization of existing and future infrastructure. Smart City applications present promising opportunities but also significant risks. While they can enhance infrastructure operations and address various needs, their adoption comes with risks that include the potential for rapid obsolescence, as well as a wide range of data management and security and privacy issues that will need to be addressed at federal, regional, and local levels in the coming years.

**NEW** *Policy IN-4.2.1: Technology Applications*  
Ensure that technology-based initiatives, including pilot projects, are designed to be user centric, prioritizing end users, such as residents for public-facing solutions, or government employees for government-facing solutions. These efforts should focus on solutions that address city challenges including financial, operational, and environmental sustainability and resiliency issues. District needs should be clearly identified and rigorously evaluated before technology initiatives are deployed.

**NEW** *Policy IN-4.2.2: Encourage Interdisciplinary and Cross-Sector Collaboration*  
Foster an environment of collaboration, cooperation, and shared opportunity across disciplines (technology, city planning, and design), and sectors (public, private, philanthropic, and think tanks), ensuring a range of perspectives and stakeholders participate in the identification of potential use cases and appropriate digital solutions that address identified District needs, and providing an efficient use of District infrastructure, investment, and resources in Smart City efforts.

**NEW** *Policy IN-4.2.3: Efficient Use of City Assets and Resources*

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Leverage District assets and resources to reduce overall cost and complexity as new technologies are identified, evaluated, and deployed, including Smart City projects.

NEW

*Policy IN-4.2.4: Neighborhood Integration*

Integrate the hardware that supports digital technology in ways that minimize harm to Washington, DC's character.

NEW

*Policy IN-4.2.5: Privacy and Security*

Ensure that Smart City services and solutions strike an appropriate balance between capability and privacy and that they have or use appropriate resilience and cybersecurity measures.

NEW

*Policy IN-4.2.6: Data Privacy*

Ensure privacy of residents, workers, and visitors by careful management of data in both specific and aggregate forms. Washington, DC is committed to being open and transparent about the "who, what, where, when, why and how" of data collection, transmission, processing and use, but these factors must be balanced with data privacy and security considerations.

NEW

**Callout Box: ParkDC - Smart Parking**

In large cities, approximately 30 percent of traffic congestion is caused by drivers that circle city streets in search of parking. The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has initiated ParkDC, a demand-based pricing pilot initiative to manage and regulate the District's curbside and parking assets. The program is designed to encourage parking turnover in high-demand areas to improve traffic congestion. It leverages intelligent sensors to measure parking usage and availability and shares this information with a mobile application to assist drivers with parking choices. The pilot is also using other sensor technologies to measure driver "circling" to identify whether this approach reduces traffic congestion.

NEW

*Action IN-4.2.A: Building on Pilot Project Lessons*

Upon completion of pilot activities, such as the Pennsylvania Avenue 2040 Initiative and ParkDC, develop after-action reports that inform future work.

NEW

**IN-4.3 Ownership and Control of Infrastructure**

NEW

The strategic and monetary value of Washington, DC's infrastructure is likely to increase significantly. As an example, increased demand for denser, faster networks and access points for 5G and related technologies are anticipated to drive a significant increase in the value of utility and streetlight poles as well as the city's fiber network.



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- NEW** Washington, DC should recognize these factors across related planning efforts, using caution before providing access to infrastructure assets in either the near-term or long-term as part of public private partnerships (P3s).
- NEW** *Policy IN-4.3.1: Coordinating District Communications Infrastructure* Ensure that OCTO conducts the planning, coordination, oversight and development of District-owned communications infrastructure, including fiberoptic networks and wireless communication.
- NEW** *Policy IN-4.3.2: Asset Control in Public-Private Partnerships* Encourage District retention of ownership and/or control of assets as part of P3s. Assets may include data, public rights-of-way and publicly-owned elements within the public right-of-way, including light poles, sidewalks, transit shelters, and other fixtures.
- NEW** *Policy IN-4.3.3: Preparation for and Responsiveness to Change* Encourage flexibility in responding to, absorbing and incorporating technology changes as they emerge, while at the same time preparing for technology implications over longer time horizons including potential obsolescence. Current technology changes include 5G networks, autonomous vehicles, and drone and robot delivery services. Consideration should be given to both District needs and those of private providers.
- NEW** *Policy IN-4.3.4: Data-Sharing Agreements* Establish appropriate data-sharing agreements with private sector entities and others who use District infrastructure.
- NEW** *Policy IN-4.3.5: Equitable Access to Digital Services and New Technologies* Prioritize equity in the public and private implementation of new technologies. The District Government should encourage the application of new technologies to enhance access to services for disadvantaged populations.
- 1313 IN-5 Energy Infrastructure 1313
- 1313.1 Growth will continue in the District, with the city's population estimated to reach one million residents by 2045. While population growth may entail a significant increase in energy demand, demand will be offset by the incorporation of Distributed Energy Resources (DERs). DERs increase the efficiency and effectiveness of energy generation, storage, distribution and use. DERs will help Washington, DC achieve a clean energy future, avoid infrastructure investments, improve resilience and improve the integration of clean energy resources to the grid, if properly considered in planning for Washington, DC's energy future. ~~Although population has declined over the last 50 years, energy consumption in the District has remained relatively constant.~~

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~~Declines in residential use have been offset by growth in commercial use. Today, the commercial sector accounts for 62 percent (106 trillion Btu of energy used annually) of the District's energy consumption, whereas the residential sector accounts for 20 percent (33.5 trillion Btu). The transportation sector is the third largest energy consumer with 15.5 percent (26.5 trillion Btu). The commercial sector energy usage in the District accounts for 80 percent of the dollars spent on energy in the city.~~ 1313.1

**NEW**

**Local law requires that by 2032, the District source half of the energy it consumes from renewable sources, and up to 200 megawatts from local solar generation. These efforts, paired with major energy efficiency initiatives, account for foreseeable significant changes in energy use and infrastructure needs.**

1314 IN-5.1 Electric Infrastructure 1314

1314.1 Electricity is delivered to District consumers by electric ~~generation~~, transmission and distribution facilities. Power plants generate high voltage electricity, which is ~~released~~ **transported** along transmission lines into the power grid to substations located throughout the District. From the substations, distribution lines deliver the electricity to transformers on the ground or mounted on utility poles. The transformers reduce the voltage so it can be safely used by District consumers. Currently, the Potomac Electric Power Company (PEPCO) supplies ~~75~~ **85** percent of the city's residential customers and ~~79~~ **63** percent of the city's commercial customers; the remainder is provided by other suppliers. 1314.1

1314.2 ~~In the District, PEPCO operates two~~ **Since the decommissioning of PEPCO's** oil-fired power plants ~~located at Benning Road (550 MW) and Buzzard Point, the (256 MW).~~ Oil has been the sole energy source used at these plants since coal was phased out in the mid-1970s. However, the dependence on generating stations in the city is not as prevalent as it used to be. Today, a majority of electricity supplied to District residents is generated by coal-fueled power plants in Maryland. **Washington, DC receives this power from point-to-point or "radial" transmission lines that terminate in the area they serve. With the decommissioning of the District's power plants, PEPCO is proposing to transform the radial transmission system to a networked system which would create redundancy and make the District more resilient. This networked system project, the Capital Grid Project, will connect multiple supply lines to critical substations, creating alternative pathways for power to flow, which will support faster restoration and reduce the potential impact of unforeseen shocks and stressors.** ~~In addition, with the emergence of cogeneration projects and purchased power over the last 20 years, the District has access to and takes advantage of 450 megawatts from utilities as far away as Ohio.~~ 1314.2

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1314.3

~~PEPCO plans to run the Benning Road and Buzzard Point power plants indefinitely. In order to maintain a reliable power distribution in Washington, DC, A significant~~ PEPCO ~~maintains a~~ presence on ~~various other~~ properties in the city ~~will also be~~ for substations, fleet maintenance, and storage and service yards. ~~The utility~~ **PEPCO** currently uses a 10-year planning horizon to estimate substation capacity. Its latest ten-year forecast determined that ~~two new two new~~ **substations and four rebuilt substations** will be needed to meet **forecast** load growth needs through ~~2015~~ **2030. These capital improvements are estimated at more than \$943 million in investment. A new Northeast** ~~substation, to be located near the intersection of New York Avenue and Florida Avenue NE will provide additional capacity for the NoMA, Heehinger Mall/Bladensburg Road, Rhode Island Avenue Metro, and H Street NE areas.~~

**As part of PEPCO's Capital Grid Project, a proposed Southeast new Waterfront** ~~substation near the Southeast Federal Center~~ will provide additional ~~substation~~ capacity for the South Capitol Corridor, Buzzard Point, ~~Waterside Mall,~~ and the Southwest Waterfront areas. **A new substation is planned for Mount Vernon Triangle that will serve NoMa, Northwest One, and the Mt. Vernon Triangle. Four substations are being rebuilt as follows:**

- **Harrison Substation, which serves Friendship Heights and Chevy Chase;**
- **Harvard Substation, which serves Columbia Heights, Adams Morgan and Mt. Pleasant;**
- **F Street Substation, which serves the western downtown area; and**
- **Champlain Substation, which is a sub-transmission substation and will provide new 69 kV and 34 kV supply to four substations.**

1314.3

**NEW**

**PEPCO is in the midst of a number of 4 kV to 13 kV conversion projects, updating aging overhead and underground infrastructure to current standards, which allow for more growth and will be able to accommodate more distributed energy resources. Conversions are taking place in Georgetown, Fort Totten, Southwest, Congress Heights, Columbia Heights, and Barney Circle.**

1314.4

~~PEPCO's~~ **is also increasing capacity at three existing substations by adding transformers and/or supplies. Existing substations will be expanded to serve growth along 7th Street, the U Street Corridor, Howard University Town Center, and Historic Anacostia. Beyond the ten-year horizon, PEPCO will site and construct substations to relieve future overloads at stations that are approaching capacity and to respond to future growth needs. At this time, PEPCO cannot determine the locations of new substations beyond the ten-year horizon with any degree of certainty. Beyond the ten-year horizon, PEPCO expects to construct substations when needed to relieve future overloads at stations that are approaching capacity and to respond to future growth. However, future**

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needs should be continually assessed and closely monitored to balance investments for the future that will be needed to serve District needs at that point in time. 1314.4

**NEW**

Investments should be balanced with the District's goal of reducing energy usage by 50 percent, as recommended in the Sustainable DC Plan. If this goal is met, significantly fewer upgrades in distribution infrastructure for electricity will be needed. To avoid making unnecessary improvements, Washington, DC should actively coordinate infrastructure improvements across relevant agencies and energy providers.

**NEW**

Over the past several years, PEPCO deployed an Advanced Metering Infrastructure system and has been developing the smart grid in the District. Projects related to the smart grid include installation of smart meters, automated switching devices that isolate electrical faults and automatically restore customers by switching them to other area feeders, and underground monitoring devices that detect problems before they turn into major events. In addition to improving reliability, the smart grid also helps conserve energy through demand response and direct load control programs and supports the installation of distributed generation and conservation voltage reduction. PEPCO is leveraging the smart grid for potential projects such as EV charging infrastructure, micro-grids and battery installations. Collectively, these programs are anticipated to reduce overall energy consumption and demand, leading to deferral of some capital expenses.

**NEW**

**Callout Box: Neighborhood Energy Systems**  
Neighborhood-scale energy systems, also known as "district energy," can be a cost-effective way of improving resilience and reducing greenhouse gas emissions and energy costs. Increasing renewable neighborhood-scale energy will help Washington, DC reach its energy goals. These systems can include both micro-grids and combined heat-and-power systems. Micro-grids are small, neighborhood-scale networks of electricity users with a local source of energy; while they are attached to the larger grid, they can also function independently. A combined heat-and-power system generates electricity while simultaneously producing heating and/or cooling, which is distributed through a neighborhood-scale network by steam, hot water, or chilled water. The District's current neighborhood-scale energy facilities are operated by the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) as well as several local universities. New systems are proposed for several major redevelopment sites by the District, DC Water, and private developers.

1314.5

Individual development projects and redevelopment on large sites will require new "feeder" lines to serve additional customers. Construction of these lines will impact existing development and infrastructure in a variety of ways. Underground distribution systems, which are typically required in new development, will

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require construction of new conduits, cables, and subsurface or pad-mounted transformers. Dense commercial or multi-family residential developments will often require the extension of new mainline underground feeder groups, potentially resulting in digging up of the streets and sidewalks. Public utility easements may also be needed to provide buried distribution systems inside multi-building developments. 1314.5

**NEW**

**An increasing supply of electricity for the District is generated by a mix of renewable resources. Renewable energy requirements and incentives have resulted in deployment of 40 megawatts of intermittent solar energy to the grid, and the amount of energy supplied by solar is expected to increase in the future. As an example, by 2030 it is anticipated that 300 MW of power will be generated by solar panels in Washington, DC.**

**NEW**

**The DC Power Line Undergrounding (DC PLUG) project was recommended by the Power Line Undergrounding Task Force to significantly improve power reliability in the District. Through the collaborative Task Force process, the District approved a multi-year \$1 billion power line undergrounding project to help prevent prolonged electric service outages during major weather events. The effort will result in the strategic undergrounding of high-voltage feeder power lines which are responsible for the higher frequency outages in Wards 3, 4, 7 and 8. Secondary and service lines will remain above ground.**

1314.6

*Policy IN-5.1.1: Adequate Electricity*

Ensure adequate electric supply to serve current and future District ~~needs~~ **of Columbia**. This will require collaboration with PEPCO and other service providers **on the location and scale of facilities to meet future development and neighborhood demand**. 1314.6

1314.7

*Policy IN-5.1.2: Undergrounding Electric Distribution Lines*

**Continue to enhance the resilience and safety of electric distribution lines and reduce their visual impact through power line undergrounding.** ~~Plan for undergrounding of electric distribution lines throughout the District to provide increased reliability of service and enhanced aesthetics and safety, and s~~ **Seek** equitable means to cover the high costs associated with undergrounding. Use the opportunity for undergrounding to bury other above-ground communication lines, such as telephone **and fiber** lines, wherever feasible. 1314.7

**NEW**

**Policy IN-5.1.3: Modernizing the Electric Distribution System**

**Modernize the energy delivery system, increasing sustainability and making the system more reliable, efficient, and cost-effective. Balance these expanded capabilities with PEPCO's basic obligation to deliver safe, reliable and affordable energy to the District.**

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- NEW** ***Policy IN-5.1.4: Develop Neighborhood-Scale Energy Systems***  
**Promote the development of micro-grids, district heating and cooling, and other neighborhood-scale energy strategies. Encourage large projects to assess the feasibility of neighborhood-scale energy systems.**
- NEW** ***Action IN-5.1.A: Aging Infrastructure***  
**Implement improvement programs that can help enhance the resilience of the transmission and distribution of electrical power, such as through system reinforcement. This may involve upgrading the system by repairing or replacing aging infrastructure or expanding the original facilities.**
- NEW** ***Action IN-5.1.B: Undergrounding Electric Distribution Lines***  
**Continue implementing the DC Power Line Undergrounding (DC PLUG) initiative that calls for placing electric distribution lines underground throughout the District.**
- See the Environmental Protection Element for information about the District's Energy Emergency Plan and Comprehensive Energy Plan.*
- 1315 IN-5.2 Gas Infrastructure 1315
- 1315.1 Consumption of natural gas has remained stable for the past 25 years, (+/- 30 trillion BTU), even as petroleum and coal consumption have decreased dramatically **and as the population has grown.** District consumers receive natural gas through transmission and distribution pipelines leading to compressor stations in and around the region. Regional Washington Gas compressor stations are located in the District, in Loudoun County and in Chillum, Maryland with additional Transco Natural Gas Compressor Stations in Manassas and Columbia. It is important to be ever vigilant about the need for natural gas safety given the potential hazards associated with gas leaks. 1315.1
- 1315.2 ***Policy IN-5.2.1: Natural Gas Safety***  
Promote consumer education on the benefits of regular monitoring of all above ground and buried natural gas piping on the customer's side of the meter to prevent corrosion, leaking, and other safety hazards. **Work with Washington Gas to assess, monitor and address leaks from the distribution system. In addition to safety concerns relating to flammability, these gas leaks contain methane, which is a potent heat-trapping greenhouse gas.** 1315.2
- 1316 IN-6 Infrastructure and ~~New Development~~ **Growth** 1316
- 136.1 This section addresses the need to plan for, coordinate, fund, and implement capital improvements to address existing deficiencies as well to address the impacts and cost of new development. 1316.1



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1317 IN-6.1 ~~Coordinating and Funding Infrastructure Improvements~~ **Infrastructure and New Development** 1317

1317.1 One of the basic purposes of the Comprehensive Plan is to improve the linkage **and coordination** between **the city's** development and capital improvement decisions. **When well-coordinated, a state of good repair for existing infrastructure can be maintained and infrastructure sufficiency for Washington, DC's growth can be ensured. The District anticipates potential development and/or redevelopment of various large sites in the city, including at Buzzard Point, Hill East, the Florida Avenue Market, Walter Reed, the Armed Forces Retirement Home, St. Elizabeths, Poplar Point, McMillan, Union Station/Burnham Place, Brentwood, and Bladensburg Road at New York Avenue, NE, and possibly at RFK Stadium. The goal for these efforts is to create vibrant new communities that are effectively integrated with surrounding neighborhoods, and that offer a high-quality experience for residents, workers and visitors. Ensuring infrastructure sufficiency with growth will be critical in coming years, given that existing infrastructure systems may require modernization or expansion to meet the needs of these new areas.** ~~However, as this Element highlights, any of the infrastructure improvements required to serve development are funded by entities other than the District of Columbia.~~

**NEW** **The efficient and effective financing, maintenance, operation, replacement and expansion of local infrastructure are important for a high quality of life in Washington, DC and to ensure that growth can be properly supported.**

**MOVED** ~~Interagency coordination is necessary to ensure that capacity remains adequate. Coordination with the private sector is also important.~~ The general trend in cities and counties across the country has been for the development community to bear a greater share of the cost of infrastructure expansion, rather than leaving this burden to local taxpayers and ratepayers (see text box). This is already common practice in the District ~~and will continue to be so in the future, given the District's already high tax rates and fiscal imbalance.~~ 1317.1

**NEW** **Interagency coordination, as well as with the private sector, is necessary to ensure that infrastructure capacity remains adequate. Coordination helps ensure that infrastructure is modernized and developed to serve future growth needs appropriately. It also helps identify where addressing infrastructure needs together will create time and cost savings.**

1317.2 *Policy IN-6.1.1: Coordination of Infrastructure Improvements*  
Ensure that infrastructure upgrades are carefully scheduled and coordinated with development and redevelopment plans in order to minimize traffic rerouting, pavement cuts for laying cable or placement of other infrastructure within the

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street right-of-way, street closings, disruptive subsurface excavation, ~~and~~ utility shut-offs. 1317.2

**NEW****Policy IN-6.1.2: Infrastructure Capacity for New Neighborhoods and Large Sites**

**Undertake infrastructure system capacity planning when master planning new neighborhoods and large sites.**

1317.3

**IN-6.2** Paying for Infrastructure 1317.3

In general, local governments and/or independent agencies or authorities (e.g., ~~WASA~~ **DC Water**, PEPCO) are responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of infrastructure. There are a number of ways that local governments fund infrastructure improvements. The most common are long-term financing via bonds and “pay-as-you go” revenues collected via taxes or utility rates. In many cases, municipalities have foregone investment in infrastructure due to revenue constraints. The result is deferred maintenance and a long backlog of unfunded repairs—an unfortunate reality in cities across the country.

Many local governments require infrastructure costs for new development to be borne by the developer through impact fees, special assessments, or other fees or taxes. Such fees are usually proportionate to the actual costs of building new water lines, sewer lines, and other utilities to serve the development site. While impact fees are an effective way to address the impacts of new development, they usually cannot be used to address deferred maintenance. Those costs must be financed through other means—generally through higher rates that cover the cost of bonds and capital projects **that address deferred maintenance.**

**NEW****Callout Box: Green Century Bonds**

**In July 2014, DC Water issued its inaugural green bond to finance a portion of the DC Clean Rivers Project. This historic \$350 million issuance represented DC Water’s inaugural green bond issue and the first “certified” green bond in the US debt capital markets. It was also the first municipal century bond issued by a water/wastewater utility in the United States. The bond will be paid back over a 100 year period, ensuring the cost is distributed to those who benefit from the significant investment. The issuance achieved its green certification based upon the DC Clean Rivers Project’s environmental benefits, which include improving water quality by remediating CSOs, promoting climate resilience through flood mitigation and improving quality of life through promotion of biodiversity and waterfront restoration.**

1317.4

**Policy IN-6.2~~4~~.1~~2~~: Creative Financing**

Promote creative financing tools to fund infrastructure **development**, maintenance and replacement. These could include innovative taxing programs,

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user fees, ~~and~~ new development charges, **improvements through Planned Unit Developments, and other innovative cost recovery mechanisms.** 1317.4

- 1317.5 *Policy IN-6.2.1, 2.3: Developer Contributions*  
Require that private developers fund the necessary relocation or upgrading of existing utilities to address limitations with existing infrastructure on or adjacent to proposed development sites. For necessary upgrades to ~~water and wastewater~~ infrastructure, **including water and wastewater,** developers should contribute to the cost of extending utilities to the project site or upgrading existing utilities to the specifications necessary for their proposed project. 1317.5

**NEW** *Policy IN-6.2.3: Infrastructure Maintenance*  
**Support investments in infrastructure to reach and maintain a state of good repair across all systems.**

- 1317.6 *Action IN-6.2.1.A: Developer Reimbursement Agreement*  
Formulate consistent, equitable, and manageable developer Reimbursement Agreements for the incremental costs of ~~water, sewer, and other~~ utility upgrades, **including water and sewer.** The Agreements should provide a means for the initial developer to be reimbursed by the District through payments by other developers who benefit from the initial developer's infrastructure improvements. 1317.6

**NEW** *Action IN-6.2.B: Community Infrastructure Investment*  
**Explore methods for ensuring infrastructure needs associated with incremental development are properly assessed and met.**

**NEW** **IN-6.3: Cross-Systems Integration**

**NEW** **Future improvements to the District's infrastructure should be planned in a collaborative, integrated manner that can identify and maximize shared benefits, rather than siloed by specific systems or agency. Examples of success, such as the DC Water Biosolids Management Program, which converts byproducts of wastewater processing to energy to power the Blue Plains Advanced Waste Water Treatment Plant, can become more commonplace in the District. Investments in infrastructure will require the collaboration of businesses, government, schools, community groups, and residents. Through this collaboration, and with the application of new technology, the best investments to infrastructure can be made.**

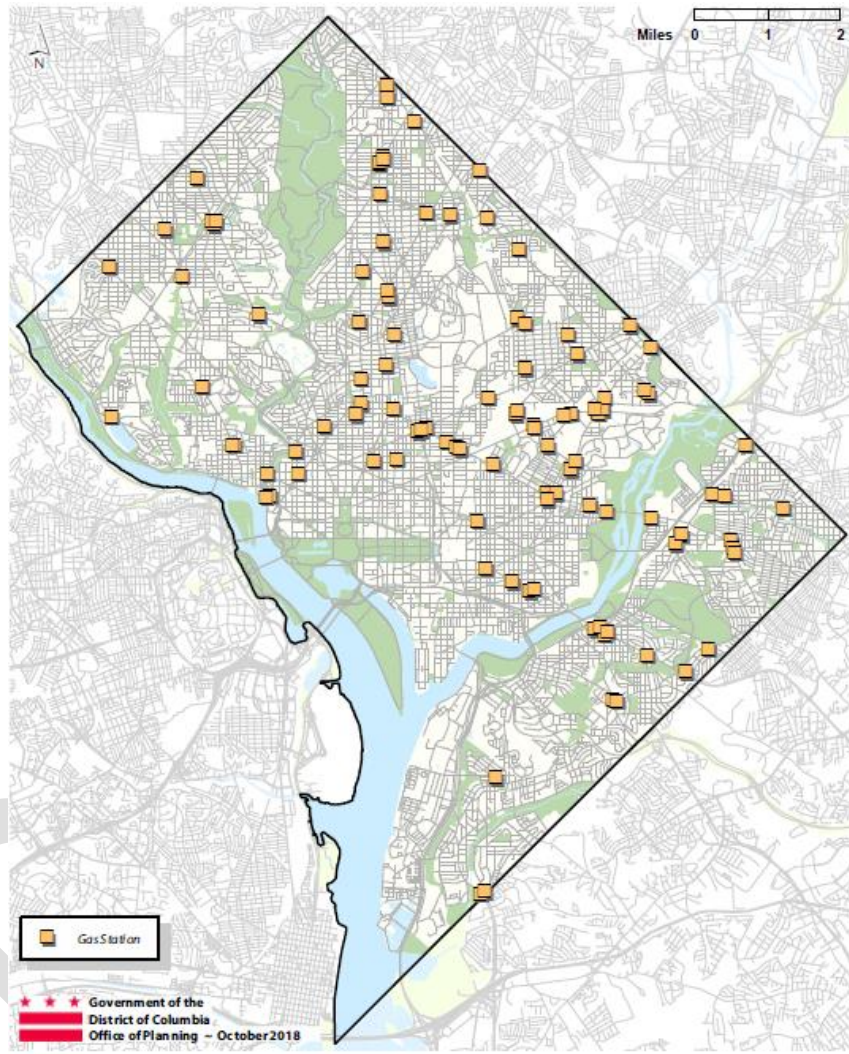
**NEW** **The District Government should also consider the importance of distributed networks, such as gas stations, in future planning efforts. The network created by standalone gas stations provides a significant energy supply to District residents, workers and visitors. The locations of gas stations in Washington, DC are shown in Figure 13.6. Future plans should consider the**

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**importance of such networks, especially in the context of emerging technologies and cross-systems integrations.**

**NEW**

**Figure 13.6: Gas Station Locations in the District**



**(Source: DC Office of Planning, 2018)**

**NEW**

**Policy IN-6.3.1: Infrastructure Collaboration**

**Encourage collaboration, cooperation, and shared opportunity across infrastructure projects, ensuring a range of perspectives and stakeholders participate in the identification of potential investments. Use technology to identify synergies, ensuring an efficient use of District infrastructure, investment, and resources.**

**NEW**

**Policy IN-6.3.2: Coordination of Infrastructure Installation**



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Encourage enhanced coordination among relevant agencies and utilities when siting new or modernizing existing infrastructure, such as water lines and gas pipelines, telecommunications conduit and streetscape improvements, in order to minimize duplicative efforts, such as digging, and to identify opportunities for cost- and time-savings.

1317.7 *Action IN-6.13.BA: Coordination of Infrastructure Upgrades*  
~~Establish~~ Continue to update a central repository for data and schedules for planned infrastructure upgrades to minimize the need for repeated street and sidewalk excavation. 1317.7

NEW *Action IN-6.3.B: Fueling Stations Shared Uses*  
Explore the potential for shared uses and reuses of fueling stations, in the context of rapidly evolving and emerging technologies. This assessment should focus on possible cross-system uses for the facilities.

NEW IN-7: Infrastructure Resilience

NEW It is critical that infrastructure in Washington, DC be designed to withstand chronic stressors and system shocks. In recent years, the District has seen how hazardous events and climate change can stress and hurt the city's infrastructure. For example, the destructive derecho storm of 2012 caused extensive damage to the electric grid and a prolonged power outage. Power was interrupted to more than 75,000 District residents and to public health care facilities for several days during a record-breaking heat wave. This event highlighted the severity and interrelated consequences of infrastructure failure, which negatively affected residents with medical needs and disproportionately harmed the lowest-income areas of the city. The storm resulted in 22 fatalities across the region and revealed the potential for cascading infrastructure impacts across critical systems that rely on electricity to operate, such as water and sewer, telecommunications, and transportation services, including transit and traffic signals.

NEW The District Preparedness System (DPS) forms the foundation of Washington, DC's efforts to integrate preparedness principles District-wide, addressing protection, mitigation, response, and recovery capabilities and needs. Success of the DPS relies heavily on collaboration among District agencies with utilities across the National Capital Region. By working together to identify and build the capabilities to address them, DPS stakeholders can continue to prepare for the most critical threats and hazards. The DPS includes consideration of civic facilities (such as hospitals, fire and police stations, schools, libraries and parks) as well as infrastructure.

*See the Health and Community Facilities Element for more information on the District Preparedness System.*

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This section addresses the protection and enhancement of critical infrastructure to address vulnerability to adverse effects of natural and man-made shocks, such as extreme weather events and security incidents, and to long-term stresses, such as sea level and temperature rise, which are driven by climate change. Washington, DC has adopted robust, multi-pronged strategies to address these issues. In addition to addressing sudden threats and hazards through the District Preparedness System (DPS), Washington, DC is working to address chronic stressors, such as poverty, safety, and access to health care and healthy food, through a wide range of policies contained throughout the Comprehensive Plan. While Washington, DC recognizes that many, if not most, of the Comprehensive Plan policies are connected to resilience, policies that explicitly identify resilience are contained in specific subsections of this Element to provide a logical framework: this section and the “CSF-2.2 Healthy Communities and Resilience” section.

NEW IN-7.1: Resilience and Critical Infrastructure

NEW Washington, DC faces major infrastructure challenges including aging systems combined with a growing population and increasing risks posed by natural hazards and climate change in addition to man-made hazards and incidents. As the effects of climate change intensify and risks increase, it is critical for Washington, DC to plan for more frequent and severe impacts on infrastructure systems. This need is emphasized in Resilient DC Strategy that lays out Washington, DC’s approach to handling these challenges.

NEW Washington, DC is investing billions of dollars in resilient and adaptive infrastructure including the DC PLUG program, updates to the District’s levee system, and the DC Clean Rivers Project. In addition to infrastructure hardening and other protective measures, infrastructure providers in Washington, DC should continue to focus their efforts on improving the robustness and reliability of critical systems to ensure continuity of the flow of goods, utility services, and information, particularly during times of crisis.

NEW This means developing adaptation plans that can include measures such as relocation or retirement of existing infrastructure, and exploring the benefits of decentralized utility systems, which can offer greater systemwide reliability through redundancy. Adaptation plans should include consideration of projected impacts of climate change during the locational and design phases of infrastructure projects to ensure more deliberate review of proposed infrastructure investments in potentially hazardous locations and of the length of a given asset’s useful life.

NEW *Policy IN-7.1.1: District Preparedness*



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Prepare Washington, DC to prevent and protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from all hazards that threaten the District, including man-made and climate change hazards. Integrate preparedness goals into relevant efforts across relevant District agencies and utilities, including through coordination with the District's Preparedness System (DPS).

NEW

*Policy IN-7.1.2: Consider Vulnerabilities and Mitigations when Planning Critical Infrastructure*

Support efforts by utilities to consider and evaluate vulnerability and mitigations for planning and protecting critical assets and systems from man-made and natural incidents and events, as well as chronic stressors, including sea level rise and heat emergencies. Identify and prioritize major vulnerabilities and hazards, such as flooding. Incorporate risk and hazard mitigation into operational and investment planning. Mitigations can include elevating natural gas lines and hardening water systems.

NEW

*Policy IN-7.1.3: Integration of Climate Adaptability*

Promote integration of vulnerability assessments in resilience planning, including climate adaptability, into pertinent aspects of the District Preparedness System using the best available data and in accordance with other District initiatives in order to adequately prepare for an evolving risk environment.

NEW

*Policy IN-7.1.4: Technology and Resilience*

Explore the use and impact of new and emerging technologies on resilience vulnerability assessment and mitigation planning.

NEW

*Policy IN-7.1.5: Energy-Resilient Infrastructure*

Encourage opportunities to make the energy transmission and distribution systems more resilient. Opportunities include networking the transmission system, undergrounding power lines, and incorporating micro-grids where appropriate.

NEW

*Policy IN-7.1.6 Neighborhood-Scale Systems*

Explore and consider neighborhood-scale systems as a measure that can help protect infrastructure from the impacts of climate change. Neighborhood-scale systems include micro-grids, district energy and district stormwater management.

NEW

*Action IN-7.1.A: "Micro-grid-Ready" Construction*

Explore tools to encourage new development projects to integrate micro-grid connectivity in their designs. Such incentives should be designed to expand decentralized power generation in the District, increasing the resilience of not only the energy distribution system but also those buildings or facilities that are dependent upon it.

## Draft Amendments

- NEW**      ***Action IN-7.1.B: Community Risk Assessments***  
**Update the Community Risk Assessment (CRA) of the District Preparedness System on a recurring basis to reflect changes in the risk profiles of relevant natural and man-made systems in Washington, DC. Incorporate relevant infrastructure information in the CRA process.**
- NEW**      ***Action IN-7.1.C: Protecting Critical Infrastructure***  
**Protect critical facilities from a wide range of threats and hazards and develop fortified and redundant systems in order to deliver essential services at all times.**
- NEW**      ***Action IN-7.1.D: Training for Protecting Critical Infrastructure***  
**Develop a training program for protecting public utilities for enforcement and private sector personnel.**
- NEW**      ***Action IN-7.1.E: Vulnerability of Critical Infrastructure***  
**Continue to support development of criteria and methodologies to assess the vulnerability of critical infrastructure to man-made and natural shocks, as well as chronic stressors.**
- NEW**      ***Action IN-7.1.F: Mitigating Vulnerability of Critical Infrastructure***  
**Explore approaches and tools to address identified vulnerabilities of critical infrastructure. Regional, citywide and site-specific factors should be taken into account, as well as near-term and long-range risks.**
- NEW**      ***Action IN-7.1.G: Emerging Technologies and Critical Infrastructure***  
**Review and evaluate the impacts of new and emerging technologies on the District's resilience and their potential for helping District Government and utility operators to advance near-term and long-range infrastructure resilience objectives.**
- For other Policies and Actions related to Resilience and Critical Infrastructure see the Health and Community Facilities Element.***